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# The Historical Record

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

## The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

## NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON, M. D.

Vol. I—SEPTEMBER 1886 TO AUGUST 1887.

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

MDCCCLXXXVII



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ROY WYN  
GLEN  
FRANK



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### CORRECTION OF ERRORS.

Page 97. The Average Price of Flour in Philadelphia from 1785 to 1828 is given at \$17.42 per hundred pounds. The figures should be \$7.42.

Page 213. Second column, line 18 for barked, read backed. Line 22, bark lands should be back lands.

Page 214. First column, third line, Wednesday, May 20, should be 26, Friday below, should be 28th; line 24 should read Decker's. In line 44 read 569 equals 686.

Page 218. Second column, line 14, should read Mr. Conover's volume, instead of Mr. Corwin's.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

SEPTEMBER, 1886.

NO. I.

## Recollections of James W. Chapman.

The *Montrose Republican* has an article signed C., which stands for J. W. Chapman, father of Mrs. S. L. Brown, of Wilkes-Barre, in which the writer quotes from a recent issue of the *RECORD* and adds some interesting comments of his own. Mr. Chapman thus corrects an inadvertence which crept into the article:

The Wilkes-Barre *RECORD* has been publishing some extracts from the *Gleaner*, a Wilkes-Barre paper published in 1811. The introduction to the article says, published by Asher Miner and Steuben Butler; but I think it must have been Charles Miner and Butler, as I know that Charles Miner, the founder of the *Gleaner*, was associated with Steuben Butler in publishing for some time, and that he sold out the *Gleaner* establishment as early as 1816 or before, to Isaac A. Chapman, an uncle of mine; for I was there attending school during the winter of 1816-17, when the paper was published by him. Charles Miner, on leaving the *Gleaner*, went into the publication of a paper at Doylestown, Bucks County, with his brother Asher, I believe, and subsequently established *The Village Record* at West Chester, which he made a very popular newspaper. Asher Miner (and possibly Mr. Butler), was engaged in publishing a paper in Wilkes-Barre called *The Luzerne Federalist*, still earlier than the *Gleaner*.

"March 20. The Commissioners of the Wilkes-Barre Meeting House and Bank Lottery have appointed Thomas Dyer, Esq., treasurer of their Board, upon whom the holders of fortunate tickets may call for payment of prizes. Ebenezer Bowman, Lord Butler, Mathew Covell, managers."

Only think—of a meeting house, now called a church, to be built from the avails of a lottery! But such was the fact. The old meeting house first built in Wilkes-Barre on the Public Square where now stands the Court House—for years the only house of worship in town, having a very high steeple, occupied alternately by the Presbyterians and the Episcopalians, and finally by the Methodists, was originally built (in part at least) by means of a lottery! I was aware of that fact from hearing much about it from my parents—one of the commissioners con-

cerned in it, Peleg Tracy, having married my mother's sister; and another, George Haines, married a sister of my father. Wonder if they licensed drinking saloons in those days for means to build churches?

"April 19. Thomas Parke (Col. 120th Regiment Pennsylvania Militia) calls a meeting of the commissioned and staff officers at the house of Joseph Chapman, Jr., in Bridgewater, armed and in uniform, as the law directs."

Col. Parke was well known as one of the early settlers of that period. He began the farm since known as Parkevale, near Springville, and was one of the County Commissioners of old Luzerne when it included Susquehanna County. He was the father of the late Benj. Parke, Esq., and was a gentleman of very dignified bearing as a military officer. As was the custom in those days, he called out all the officers of the regiment once a year for a training drill, and generally at my father's house in old Bridgewater, now Brooklyn.

"April 26. A complete workman is engaged to finish the vessel now on the stocks in this port. It is contemplated to have her launched and fit for the shareholders to dine in on the 4th of July. Those who are in arrears, it is presumed, will pay up their shares with the promptitude which their engagements and the importance of the undertaking demand. As no mention of the vessel is made in the report of the Independence Day celebration, we presume the work was not completed in time."

I think this must refer to a vessel built about that period at Wilkes-Barre mainly by the enterprise of a prominent business man, then well known, by the name of John P. Arndt. Elisha Mack, an early settler from Lyme, Conn., at "Mack's Corners," in Brooklyn, who was a ship carpenter by trade, was employed to "boss" the job. It was said to be nicely done, and when launched into the Susquehanna, Capt. Joseph Chapman Sr., who after being an officer in the Revolution served several years as a sea captain in the West India trade, was chosen to "christen" her as it was called, with a bottle of wine, calling her the "Experiment," if I remember rightly, intended for sale (as well as for sail) at Baltimore or some other place down the

river—I don't know whether as a sloop or a schooner. I believe, however, it proved to be an unsuccessful experiment to the owners, as I think she was wrecked before ever reaching her destination. If I am mistaken in this or any other statement of early events, I hope some antiquarian of earlier years or better posted than I am may volunteer to correct me.

Montrose, July 11, '86.

#### Colonial or Provincial.

Many of our writers, especially newspaper historians, use the term colonial to the events in Pennsylvania under the proprietary government. Prior to the purchase by William Penn, it was the *Colony on the Delaware*, afterwards the *Province of Pennsylvania*. New Jersey, Maryland and Pennsylvania were provinces, while Massachusetts, New York, Virginia and others were always colonies until they declared their independence. The governor of a colony was appointed by the Crown—those of the province by the proprietary. Perchance the use of this term colonial as to Pennsylvania arose from the fact that Mr. Hazard, who edited them, misnamed our Provincial Records, Colonial Records. He ought to have known better.—*Dr. W. H. Egle in Harrisburg Telegraph.*

#### An Aged Preacher's Burial.

The funeral of Rev. J. P. Rice was held at Trucksville July 30, at 2 pm., the remains arriving at Kingston from Hunlock's Creek on the 12:40 pm. D., L. & W. train. Rev. A. Griffin, of the Kingston M. E. Church officiated, and preached a sermon from the words found in Job 5, 23: "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season." There was a very large attendance of relatives and friends of the deceased. Among the relatives being his aged wife: a brother, Rev. C. L. Rice, of the Wyoming Conference, and stationed at North Fenton, Binghamton District; Dr. Rogers and wife (Mrs. Rogers being a sister) of Huntsville; his three sons, Levi Rice, of Lehman, William, of Harvey's Lake and Lyman, of Dallas; also, a step-daughter, Mrs. Harrison Steele, of Shelby, Ohio, and a stepson, Jacob Rice, with his wife, from Hunlock's Creek, with whom Mr. Rice and his wife were living at the time of his death. Mrs. George Cook, of Three Rivers, Mich., a daughter of the deceased, was not able to be present. Judge James Phoenix and wife, of Beaumont, were also present. Mrs. Phoenix is a sister of the deceased. Interment was made in the cemetery at Trucksville.

Mr. Rice was born in Knowlton Township, N. J., Aug. 22, 1805. He was the son of Rev.

Jacob Rice. He came to Trucksville in May, 1814. He was for many years a class leader, exhorter and local preacher in the M. E. Church. He was possessed of many sterling qualities and leaves behind him a good name, which "is rather to be chosen than great riches."

#### MEDALS GIVEN TO THE INDIANS.

**Brief Description of Five Historical Medals in the Possession of the Wyoming Historical Society—Also of One Which Ought to be, But is Not**

At the fall meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, of this city, read a paper on the various silver and copper medals presented to the American Indians by the sovereigns of England, France and Spain, from 1600 to 1800 and especially of five such medals of George I., of Great Britain, now in the possession of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society and its members. The same now appears in pamphlet form, also in the second volume of the published proceedings of the society. The paper is a most interesting one, tracing briefly the American discovery and the subsequent treatment by the whites of the aboriginal inhabitants, particularly in the bestowal of medallio tributes, and other presents. France and England early vied with each other in thus seeking to attachment of the Indians. We have space for only a portion of the description of the Wyoming medals. For a more satisfactory idea of the subject the reader is referred to Mr. Hayden's valuable pamphlet. We quote and condense a few paragraphs:

The Indian medals of George I. are the first that bear any especial reference to the peculiar life and pursuits of the Indians. Each of the four medals which I here present for your examination, contains on the obverse the bust of George I., and on the reverse, the device of an Indian hunting the deer. Two of these medals have a historic connection that is interesting.

Those which belong to my own cabinet were discovered about 1858, in the bank of the Ohio River, at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, on the spot where the bloody and stubborn battle of Point Pleasant was fought, in 1774, between the colonists, under General Andrew Lewis, and the combined Indian tribes, under Logan, Cornstalk and Outacite: a battle which began one-half an hour before sunrise, (October 10, 1774, and continued, almost without cessation, until sunset the same day. It is more than probable that these two medals were worn by Indian chiefs on that day, and were lost in the conflict or in the flight. They were presented to me by the late Dr.



Samuel Glover Shaw, of Point Pleasant, from his very rich collection of pre-historic and Indian remains. In describing these five medals, I will begin with that one belonging to the society:

1. Wyoming Medal—Obverse, military bust of George I. Legend "George King of Great Britain." Reverse, under a tree to the left stands a deer on a hill. To the right, at the foot of the hill, stands an Indian, with a bow drawn, and in the act of shooting the deer; over all, the sun with his rays. Size, 25-18.

This medal was included in the Chambers Collection, which was purchased and presented to the society in 1858, thus forming the nucleus of the the valuable collections now owned by this society. The medal is described in Mr. Chambers' catalogue as "one of the medals presented by George I. to the chiefs of the Six Nations in 1716." As there was no conference with the Indians by any of the colonies of Great Britain in 1716, Chambers' conclusions are merely conjectural. It may have been presented at the conference of the Governor of New York and the Six Nations in 1715 or 1717, but in the very full account of those conferences no reference whatever is made to this or any other medal. Where Mr. C. procured this medal and what its local history, I cannot ascertain; but the above account of it disposes of the impression which somehow has prevailed, that it was the copy referred to by Mr. Miner, or had been received by this society from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

2. Point Pleasant Medal—Obverse, military bust of George I., draped and laureated, facing right, and 2-16 larger than the head of No. 1. Legend the same as No. 1, "George King of Great Britain." Reverse, same as No. 1, except that the hill is higher, the tree shorter and the Indian larger. Brass. Size 23.

3. Point Pleasant Medal—Obverse, military bust of George I., facing left, and laureated. Legend "Georgius.—Mag. Br. Fra. et Hit. Rex." Reverse, under a tree to the right, which follows the curve of the planchet, an Indian is standing in the posture of one about to run. He holds in his hand a bow from which the arrow has been discharged. To the left, under a second tree which follows the left curve of the planchet, is a deer running at full speed. Between the Indian and the deer stands a bush at the foot of which lies what appears to be a dead deer. There is no sun on the medal. Planchet very thin. Brass. Looped. Size 16.

4. Stearns Medal.—Copper. Almost identical with No. 2. Size 26. In possession of Master Denison Stearns.

5. Jenkins Medal.—Obverse, military bust of George I. The hair does not fall over the

back in a queue but is confined closely by the fillet, which is composed of 12 leaves, and is much smaller than the others. The legend, George King of Great Britain, extends over  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the circumference, while in the other it is only about  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Reverse, The sun; a very large Indian to the right throwing a javelin at a very small deer, which stands to the left at an angle of forty degrees from the Indian. Copper. Very thick. Size 24. This medal, now in the possession of Hon. Steuben Jenkins of Wyoming, Pa., was found on the banks of the Susquehanna at Sunbury, by Mr. J. H. Jenkins.

A copy of No. 2 is known to be in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It is described in Miner's History of Wyoming, p. 27, and is represented there by an engraving. It will be recognized as a duplicate of No. 2. Mr. Miner gives this account of its discovery: After a general description of the remains of ancient fortifications in the Wyoming Valley, he refers to one "on Jacobs' Plains, or the upper flats in Wilkes-Barre;" gives a detailed account of its appearance, and continues, "in 1814 I visited this fortification in company with the present Chief Justice Gibson and Jacob Cist, Esq. The whole line, although it had been ploughed for more than thirty years, was then distinctly traceable by the eye. Fortune was unexpectedly propitious to our search, for we found a medal bearing on one side the impress of King George the First, dated 1714 (the year he commenced his reign,) on the other an Indian Chief. It was awarded to Mr. Cist, as the most curious and careful in such matters, and by him was deposited with the Philadelphia Historical Society." Mr. Miner adds, in a note, "Should it not be placed with the Indian relics in a museum to be formed in Wilkes-Barre?" I courteously commend this suggestion to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. I think Mr. Miner must be in error as to the date, as none appears on the engravings of the medal, and none appears on any of the four medals just described. Other copies of this medal have been discovered in the State of Pennsylvania, but I have had no time to ascertain their present whereabouts.

#### Early Doctors of Huntington Valley.

Dr. Charles E. Gaylord was probably the first permanently settled physician in Huntington Valley. His family were among the first settlers of the Susquehanna Co. His father died in the Revolutionary War and his brother, Lieut. Asher Gaylord, fell in the massacre at Wyoming. The doctor settled in Huntington soon after the cessation of Indian hostilities. His only child was Henderson Gaylord, who afterwards was made wealthy by the coal deposits on his land.

The next physician was Dr. Crystal, who

came soon after 1800. His wife was a Miss Stookey, of Salem.

Dr. Griswold afterwards located near Town Hill, and practiced about 20 years. Dr. John Weston practiced awhile as the successor of Dr. Gaylord, but moved to the State of New York where his children yet reside.

These early physicians were succeeded by Drs. Pickering, Jones, Davenport, Crawford, Hayden and others, who each resided in Huntington some years, then sought locations elsewhere.

Dr. Sidney H. Warner located in Huntington in 1833 and practiced nearly half a century. One daughter is the wife of Dr. Clinton Bacon, of Huntington and a son, Dr. John Nelson Warner, is practicing dentistry in Wilkes-Barre, the mother, nee Cornelia Machette, of Philadelphia, making her home with the latter. Dr. Warner almost literally stood head and shoulders over his followers, physically and mentally.

A few years after Dr. Warner came Dr. William Barrett, who practiced at Cambra a score of years. Originally from Gettysburg, he hastened thither after the battle and bravely assisted in the care of the sick and wounded.

Dr. Mason Crary was one of the early settlers and the first physician of Salem Township. He was a native of Stonington, Conn.

In 1846 Dr. L. C. White located in Shickshinny and practiced several years. The following year he was joined by his brother-in-law, Dr. Charles Parker. The latter practiced here until his death, at the age of about 80, Dr. White removing to Mississippi.

Dr. William D. Hamilton has practiced in Shickshinny more than 25 years. Later comers are Drs. Kamerly, Dodson, Chapin, Rogers, Harrison, Kingsbury, Betterly, Sutliff, Santee, Harvey, Bonham, Bacon, Hice, Boston, Lockhart and Davidson.

For details the reader is referred to Mrs. M. L. Hartman's historical article in the *Shickshinny Echo* of July 23, 1896, from which these facts are taken.

#### The Vegetable Origin of Coal.

Prof. Leo Lesquereux, Fossil Botanist of the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, and well-known in Wilkes-Barre, by reason of his visit to the collection of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, is writing a series of articles going to favor the origin of anthracite coal. He takes up several objections to this theory and then answers them. We quote:

First (Objection).—The vegetable remains found in and upon the shale of coal beds do not prove that the coal itself is a compound

of plants. The preserved remains may have been deposited and indeed have been deposited in the shale after the formation of the coal. Therefore leaves, branches, fragments of plants of diverse nature, like pieces of bark, etc., found now in connection with coal beds, may have been carried by atmospheric disturbances, storms, etc., and strewn upon layers of bituminous matter, like the lakes of bitumen observed in the vicinity of some volcanoes. The plants, therefore, may be totally foreign to the composition of the coal.

Answer 1.—In examining seams of coal covered by shale-bearing plants, one sees that the roof shales become gradually more bituminous in approaching the line of connection with the coal: and that even where they have become quite black, or half shale and half coal, the remains of the plants are still recognized, losing their forms only when the matter is entirely decomposed or reduced to hard coal. But even then, in some coal beds, the thin layers of nearly pellucid very hard bituminous matter are separated by their lamellæ of charcoal, evidently woody matter. Leaflets of ferns, and pieces of bark with their peculiar leaf-sears, are often printed with a perfect preservation of their forms and of their nervation, easily distinguishable with the eye.

Answer 2.—In some coal beds of cannel, or very bituminous coal, fragments of plants of divers size, trunks of trees, branches of fern, especially small seeds, spores (the seeds of *Lycopodiaceæ*) are found, sometimes in great abundance. Species of coal in England have been found composed of spores in such profusion that some authors have hazarded the opinion that coal has been entirely formed of spores. In the cannel coal, the most compact coal of which the matter has been so thoroughly decomposed that the fracture of the substance is as smooth as that of black marble, for example in the Breckinridge coal of Kentucky, one finds large stems, *stigmaria*, *lepidodendron*, etc., whose forms are perfectly preserved as sulphide of iron or pyrites. At Cannelton, the bed of coal also cannel, rests upon a layer of less thoroughly decomposed matter, but still coal, wherefrom the remains of 250 species of plants have been obtained and described.

Objection continued.—But the objector may say, bitumen either deposited by and from the atmosphere or by the eruption of volcanoes, may have been distributed upon forests or upon land covered with a varied vegetation: and of course the remains of plants might thus be found at the base of the bituminous deposits, or pieces of wood, branches, trunks, large fragments of bark, may have been thrown from the borders during the process of accumulation of the

matter without having contributed in any essential manner to the composition of the combustible.

Answer 3.—Now we have for answering the preceding objection a kind of evidence concerning the true nature of coal to which it seems that no contradiction can be reasonably offered. By the work of the lapidary it is possible to obtain lamellæ of coal thin enough to be rendered nearly translucent. On subjecting these lamellæ to the microscope, one may easily see the matter of the coal to be composed of mere fragments of vegetables, though they may be deformed by compression and decomposition. Researches of this kind have been for some time actively pursued, and have proved that a piece of coal taken from any part of a coal seam, either in vertical or horizontal direction, is entirely made up of very small fragments of plants mixed of course with an amount of bitumen such as necessarily results from the decomposition of plants. Researches on this subject have been pursued in Germany, by Gumbel; in France, by Renault; in England, by Williamson, Carruther, Wethered; in Switzerland, by Fruh; in North America, by Dawson. All have arrived at the same conclusion, that the coal is entirely composed of vegetable remains.

It cannot be said against these revelations of structure made by the microscope that the so-called carbonized vegetable tissues may not be plants; for the celebrated anatomist Renault, of the museum of Paris, remarks as others have noticed before him, that in a great number of cases, the remains of the plants which composes the coal, although deformed by maceration, still show recognizable organic structures, and may be identified as plants of the same species as those which are found in fragments silicified or in the roof shale, where they have been protected against deformation by being embedded in clay, iron, sand, etc.

The thin layers of hydrocarbon are produced of course by the decomposition of the vegetable tissue and by compression. They are rarely pure but generally mixed with spores or pieces of cellular tissue, isolated cells, etc.

To the evidence thus obtained directly by the eyesight of observers may be added the no less direct evidence of chemical analysis. The proportion of ashes remaining after combustion of coal is on an average the same as that of various species of wood. If there is a little surplus in the proportion it is easily accounted for, as caused by the introduction into the original mass of that dust of mineral matter reduced to powder always carried by the wind.

And, in regard to the constituents of the coal, chemistry acknowledges that they must

positively be a result of the slow, gradual and long-continued decomposition of vegetable matter, protected from the free access of the air and its burning element oxygen. The process of this peculiar decomposition has been followed from its beginning in peat, to its first more advanced stages in the lignite of the glacial era; in which latter form the branches and trunks of trees have already become softened to the consistence of soap without losing their color; then, to the next stage of miocene lignite, in which the wood, still soft, is already quite black; then, to lower tertiary or upper cretaceous coal, where the vegetable matter is hard and compact like coal, but easily disaggregated by atmospheric action; then, to coal of the carboniferous period; and finally to the conditions of anthracite. The whole series forms an unbroken chain of successive modifications, which not only can be, but has been carefully studied and recorded as one of the most interesting pages of the secret work of nature.

#### The Formation of Coal.

The RECORD has already given some of the arguments of Prof. Leo Lesquereux, fossil botanist of Pennsylvania, to sustain the theory that anthracite coal is of vegetable origin. A French paper—the *Bulletin de la Ceramique*—now publishes a singular and entirely different theory in which M. de Grand'Enry argues that forest vegetation had nothing to do with coal formation. Buffon having indicated the fact that coal deposits are situated in places which at one time were covered with water. M. de Grand'Enry argues that the water of such seas or lakes was heated by the earth's caloric properties and by the sun. The atmosphere being charged with carbonic acid, there was in these waters an enormous production of inferior vegetation which absorbed the carbonic acid of the air, and became decomposed either by the want of water or of oxygen. A sort of vegetable jelly will thus have been formed which, gradually losing its humidity, transformed its carbon into ulmic hydra-carburetted substances; to become successively transformed into asphalt, petroleum, naphtha, earth pitch, bitumen, and finally coal.

This principle is opposed to the idea that large trees and shrubs produced coal, and in further support of this theory it is stated that the carboniferous flora consisted of plants deficient in substance necessary for producing coal, the investigations of M. Gaston de Saporta on this point indicating that this vegetation consisted of a relatively thin circle of wood and a large quantity of a softer substance. Brogniart and Elie de Beaumont attribute the foundation of coal to the transformation of the close herbaceous

vegetation which surrounded the larger forest trees and plants. Similar opinions have been expressed by M. Ponchet and other savans, so that M. Grand' Eury has more or less eminent authorities for his statement, that a calculation of accumulation of trees, etc., necessary for the conversion into even a thin coal bed, a forest suddenly buried under water or gradually letting its residue gather on the ground, leads to an evidently erroneous result; so greatly is it necessary to exaggerate either the mass of vegetable matter or the duration of the process of coal formation.

M. Grand' Eury believes that coal was at one time liquid, and gradually assumed a solid shape. He considers that coal beds were formerly beds of naphtha and bituminous petroleum, produced by the decomposition of inferior aquatic vegetation, under the influence of heat and dampness. As a proof of this assertion, he quotes the fact that the porous minerals found at the bottom of coal pits are impregnated in their pores with naphtha and petroleum. This is immediately detected by their odor and it is therefore argued that this naphtha could only have been absorbed during the first state of coal formation. It is further remarked that this theory serves to explain the formation of petroleum, asphalt and other bituminous springs, which are found at various depths and even at the bottom of some lakes.

In further defense of the hypothesis that coal was once in a liquid state, it is urged that cannel coal lights in the same way as resin, and can be used like a torch or flambeau. Another proof is the fact that the lighter substances (turfs, lignites, etc.), are on the top. Various proofs are furnished by the absence of similarity between the ashes of wood and coal, that the two substances are not so closely connected as has been thought to be the case.

The presence of fossil imprints or plants is explained by the fact that these imprints are in the earthy and schistous portions of the mines, and not in the coal itself. The trunks of trees which are sometimes found are not coal, properly so called, and retain certain properties of wood. The waters in which there grew the vegetable substances contained (like such waters of the present time) carbonate of lime, carbonate of iron, and alum. Hence the presence of these salts in certain kinds of coal is explained.

These interesting facts, quoted by M. Paul Noel are possibly not altogether new, but in any case deserve attention from the methodical and careful manner in which they are presented by him. Ideas of a more or less novel kind have from time to time been put forward by French writers with regard to this subject. M. Gennete asserted that coal is produced from a certain sandy earth which

he names *agas*, while M. de Gonsanne regards it as clay mixed with sufficient bitumen and sulphur to render it combustible. In further illustration of his theory, he quotes the fact that none of the ligneous products with which we are acquainted can, strictly speaking, be called coal; referring specially to lignites, etc.

#### A Former Wilkes-Barrean's Death.

Col. William P. Wilson, formerly of this city, died at Warm Springs, Va., a short time ago, his demise being caused by heart disease superinduced by rheumatism, contracted while serving in the Rebellion. Col. Wilson was engaged in the drug business in this city in 1870-1, in partnership with P. M. Barber, they having a fine establishment in Music Hall block, and another on Public Square in the store room lately vacated by C. B. Metzger. Col. Wilson's wife is a sister of Allan H. Dickson Esq. He was an aid in Gen. Hancock's staff during the war, and for five years subsequently. Col. Wilson was a brave soldier, an honorable business man and an upright citizen.

The following is taken from Kulp's Families of Wyoming:

Rev. H. S. Dickson had four children, the youngest, Allan Hamilton Dickson, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre, another, Ellen, who married Col. W. P. Wilson, of Potter's Mills, Centre County, Pa. Col. Wilson was a grandson of Hugh Wilson, who was one of the founders of the Irish settlement at Bath, Northampton County, Pa., and a son of Dr. William Irvine Wilson, whose wonderful energy, courage and devotion in the practice of medicine throughout Penn's Valley during its early history, and whose cheerful and profuse hospitality at his home, at Potter's Mills, made him famous and beloved by all of his many friends and acquaintances. He died at Bellefonte, on September 22, 1883, in his ninetyeth year. Col. Wilson served throughout the war on the staff of Gen. W. S. Hancock, and remained in the regular army until 1870, when he resigned his commission and engaged in business.

#### Judge Dana's Indian Pipe.

A Tunkhannock correspondent of the Scranton *Free Press* writes thus: "Up the side of Avery mountain is a cave, from the mouth of which you get a lovely view of the valley; they say this cave was a hiding place and shelter for the Indians in days gone by. Just across the river on the flats was an Indian burying ground. A German farmer, who works Dr. Dana's farm, told me yesterday that two years ago, when plowing for corn, he turned up seven Indian skulls, a lot of beads, wampum, arrow tips and a curious pipe. Judge Dana, of Wilkes-Barre, who is a collector of relics, gave \$20 for the pipe.

## THE BERWICK CENTENNIAL.

Some Data Relating to the Town's Settlement — Confusion as to the Precise Date — Names of the Founder and Early Residents—Notable Events, Enterprises, Buildings, Etc.

Authorities differ as to the exact time to celebrate the centennial of the borough of Berwick, Columbia Co. The people there say 1886 is the proper year. Hon. Steuben Jenkins says it should be next year. While Dr. Egle, in his history of Pennsylvania, says Berwick was first settled in 1783, and this date coincides with that given in Day's Historical Collections of Pennsylvania, published in 1843. In the *Berwick Independent* of July 14, 1878, still another date is given, it being stated that Berwick was founded in 1780 by Evan Owen, whose name would indicate Welsh origin, who came from Philadelphia in a Durham boat. He built a habitation and laid out a town, which he called Owensville. He subsequently named the town Berwick, after his birthplace in Scotland, along the river Tweed. His house was of logs upon a site now occupied by the St. Charles Hotel. The settlers who immediately followed were Robert and John Brown, Englishmen; Samuel Jackson, a brother-in-law of Owen; James Evans, a millwright; Henry Traugh, a tanner; John Smith, a shoemaker, and John Jones.

John Brown opened the first hotel, and it was the favorite stopping place for travelers between Wilkes-Barre and Northumberland. This hotel stood where the Y. M. C. A. building now stands.

The next hotel was built by John Jones, at corner of Market and Front Streets, and was kept by him.

Abraham Klotz kept the Jones Hotel stand a long while; then Frederick Nicely, during whose time it was known as the Cross Keys. The St. Charles Hotel was the first brick structure in the town. It was first known as the Seybert stand, then as the Rising Sun. Its present name was but recently applied. After Seybert it was kept successively by Connelly, Leidy, Ruch, Miller, Hoyt, Correll, McNair, Stedman, Enke and Seely.

Dr. Headley kept a hotel in what is known as the old Headley house, the present residence of H. R. Bower.

A market house was erected in 1805, it serving for schools, religious services, public meetings and elections.

Game was plenty in those days and wolves were a common nuisance.

John Jones opened the first store about 1800. Other early storekeepers were J. & A. Miller, J. & E. Leidy, Thomas Richardson, Matthew McDowell, Wright & Slocum, Robert Mc-

Curdy, Stowers & Ellis, Clark, Drilly & Seoville, Wm. C. Reynolds, Gilmore & Shuman, Rittenhouse and Shuman, Hoadley & Bahl, Headley, McNair & Co., Fowler & Driesbach, J. & J. Bowman, who were succeeded by C. B. Bowman, George Lane, father of the late Charles A. Lane, of this city, who was also a Methodist preacher and for a long time identified with the Book Concern, New York.

The first farmer was Sebastian Seybert, who had also a store and blacksmith shop. His farm was at the Swamp, in Salem Township, two miles above Berwick.

Among the early comers were Mr. Davenport, the Malloys, Samuel Herrin, William Cox, Paul Thompson, (who was a potter,) the Vernetts (Mrs. Dr. Ingham being a descendant of this family) and Marshalls. Joseph Stackhouse brought fruit trees from Bucks County which he planted in the square comprised between Second, Third, Mulberry and Vine Streets. The first lawyer was Bancroft; first judge, John Cooper; first doctors, Moreland and Reisswick; first postmaster, William Brien; first schoolmaster; Isaac Holloway; first Sunday schoolman, D. Bowen; first preachers, Carson and Painter, first coopers, John and Peter Solt; first carpenter, John Brown; first blacksmith, Aquila Star; first tailor, Benjamin Dean; first mason, Johnathan Cooper; first dyer, Bush; first tanner, Henry Traugh; first dentist, Vallershaup; first tinner, Hiram Inman; first gunsmiths, Sleppy & Co.; first wheelwright, James Evans; first silversmith, Marshall; first milliner, Roxana Courtright; first painter, Abel Dalby; first butcher, Stackhouse; then Jonathan Cooper; first weaver, Polly Mullen; first cabinet maker, Samuel Herrin; first saddle and harness-maker, Col. John Snyder; first lime burner, John Jones.

Wm. Brien kept the first ferry. The first bridge was built in 1814 by Theodore Burr, it being carried away by a freshet 21 years later. Its officers were A. Miller, Sr., president; John Brown, treasurer; managers, Silas Engle, Thomas Bowman, Elisha Barton, Jr. After a few years a new bridge was built, the State contributing \$10,000, and this structure still stands. The contribution on the part of the State was obtained through the efforts of Jesse Bowman, who was delegated to visit Harrisburg and urge the matter before the Legislature. The bridge was built by Eliphalet Edson and Charles Barrett. Its cost was about \$45,000. John Bowman was president in 1837, when it was finished, and until 1843. He was succeeded by his brother, Jesse Bowman, who continued in office during his life. Others who helped the enterprise through were S. F. Headley, J. T. Beach, Dr. A. B. Wilson, Robert Smith and Judge Mack.

In 1805 several Philadelphia capitalists constructed the Nescopeck turnpike. The Tioga and Susquehanna turnpike was opened in 1818, and the first stage line was run to Mauch Chunk by Andrew Shiner. The first stage line between Wilkes-Barre and Northumberland was run by the Horton Brothers, and it antedated the above a number of years.

Evan Owen was squire and settled all disputes. Every bear killed was brought to him and he divided it equally among the citizens. He was succeeded as squire by Samuel Herrin.

Columbia County was taken from Northumberland in 1814; Berwick was incorporated a borough in 1818.

The nearest mill was at Catawissa, 15 miles distant. Later the Rittenhouse mill, a mile or two below town, and the Evans mill, at Evansville, were built. Evan Owen built a mill along the river, intending to supply it with water therefrom, but the scheme proved a failure and was abandoned.

The first church was built by the Quakers, a log building that stood where the brick church now stands, they being the first denomination to have a church; the second was the Methodists, their original church being the second brick structure built in the town; it was abandoned to dwelling purposes, and a new church was constructed in 1845; this was displaced in 1870 by a more modern edifice; the third church was built by the Baptists in 1843, and the fourth by the Presbyterians in 1843, these congregations having worshipped for many years in the Methodist building.

Water was first supplied from Foundryville, and conducted through log pipes a distance of two miles. The present water works were built in 1848, the water being raised a height of about 100 feet to a reservoir by means of a steam pump from a large spring in the Susquehanna. Rev. J. H. Young, Dr. A. B. Wilson, Jesse Bowman and S. F. Headley were the prominent movers in this enterprise.

The mails were carried by post (on horseback) and in 1800 Jonathan Hancock rode post from Wilkes-Barre to Berwick. The mail was carried once a week via Nanticoke, Newport and Nescopeck to Berwick, returning via Huntington and Plymouth.

The old academy was built in 1839 by Thomas Connelly, supplanting the market house in location and in its varied uses. A few years ago it was demolished and its space in Market Street given up to street use, which was demanded, while a handsome new school building has taken its place further out Market Street. This change took place in 1873.

Shad were seined by the wagon load and a load could be obtained for a barrel of salt,

so scarce was this commodity. The best shad sold for four cents. One was caught weighing nine pounds. Butter brought six cents a pound and calico from thirty to fifty cents a yard.

The residents did their washing at the river and left their kettles along the shore the year round.

The first children born were John and Annie Brown, children of Robert. Annie became the wife of Jesse Bowman. She was the first person married in Berwick.

The Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R.R. was opened to Berwick in 1858.

The First National Bank was organized in 1864, with M. W. Jackson as president and M. E. Jackson cashier.

The first fire engine was obtained in 1825. A fire in the Jackson & Woodin works in 1857 destroyed it.

Berwick had its cannon, but little if any thing has been seen or heard of it since the firing of a salute on the return of the Mexican soldiers, when through a premature discharge Sam. Iddings lost an arm.

Drs. A. B. Wilson and Josiah Jackson began the practice of medicine in 1828. The latter had a store connected with his office. Drs. Beebe and Townsend were early practitioners, as also Dr. Langdon, who was rendered incapable to practice by dementia.

The first military company was organized by Charles Snyder. Training days were a great occasion, the battalion drills of infantry, cavalry, etc., making an imposing military display, to witness which the people in all the country roundabout visited the town.

Ground was broken for the North Branch Canal at Berwick, July 4th, 1828. Mr. Pews had the contract for the Berwick section and Nicholas Seybert for the section above. There were fourteen drinking places in the town during the building of the canal, and pure whisky sold at 3 cents a dram. Packet boats named the George Denison and Gertude were launched by Miller Horton and A. O. Chahoon in 1835.

The accident resulting from the several attempts to navigate the Susquehanna is still remembered by some of our older residents. The Codorus, a boat built at York, drawing only 8 inches of water, made a successful trip to Wilkes-Barre and as far north as Binghamton in the spring of 1826. A second steamboat, the Susquehanna, built at Baltimore, and drawing 14 inches, made the next attempt. It reached the Berwick falls May 3d, 1826. Rich pine wood was piled under the boiler, a full head of steam raised and the effort made to ascend the rapids. But the strain was too great and the boiler burst with sad results. Five persons were killed, two or three of whom are buried in the Berwick Graveyard, and most of the twenty who remained on the boat

were more or less injured.

Berwick's newspaper record dates close upon 1800. Wm. Caruthers made the initial attempt with the *Berwick Independent American* in 1812, he having started the paper some time previously in Nescopeck; Daniel Bowen issued a paper in 1827, George Mack in 1832, J. T. Davis in 1834, then Wilbur & Joslyn, then Tate & Gangewer, then B. F. Gilmore, then D. C. Kitchen, then Pearce & Snyder, then J. M. Snyder, then Tate & Irwin, then W. H. Hibbs, then A. B. Tate, then J. S. Sanders.

M. W. Jackson and Judge Mack built a foundry in 1840, which was run by horse power. The firm changed to McCurdy & Jackson, then to M. W. Jackson and in 1849 to Jackson & Woodin. In 1872 it became the Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Co., and this year also the rolling mill addition was made to the plant. The company has done a successful business, making fortunes for the several members, and it continues to be an institution of considerable magnitude.

The Odd Fellows Society is one of the old societies. It owns a handsome building which was erected in 1867, and is a prosperous organization with large membership.

James Pratt, a soldier of the revolution, was one of the early residents.

The oldest tombstone in the grave-yard bears the date 1804. There are buried in the cemetery 2 soldiers of the revolution, 3 of the war of 1812, 2 of the war of Mexico, 11 of the Rebellion.

The first cornet band was organized in 1841 by G. S. Tutton and led by J. M. Snyder.

The telegraph was extended into the town in 1850.

The above contains the main data comprising Berwick's earlier history. No effort has been made to bring the record down to the present, which is manifestly needless when simply the earlier events are intended to be dealt with. No pretension to absolute correctness is assumed, as after the lapse of so many years it is extremely difficult to fix dates, names and events at all, to say nothing of the almost impossible task of arrangement in chronological order or historic sequence with such material as is at hand and the brief time that could be allotted to the subject. In view of the centennial celebration which takes place on the 19th instant there will doubtless be at least some degree of interest attached to its perusal.

In 1805 the first animal show, an elephant exhibited in Wilkes-Barre, Everybody went to see the "Jumbo" of the time.

In 1823 the first organ in the county was placed in St. Stephen's church, Wilkes-Barre, and the first tune played was Yankee Doodle.

#### BERWICK'S CENTENNIAL.

**A Great Outpouring of People—The G. A. R. Veterans Make a Very Creditable Display—Indifference on the Part of the Local Management—Plenty of Pick-pockets.**

[Special to Record.]

BERWICK, Aug. 19.—When Evan Owens came up from Philadelphia and founded the town of Berwick a hundred years ago he probably had no conception of the great in-pouring of people there would be on the 19th day of August in this year of our Lord 1886. To-day is a gala occasion for this ancient and well-preserved borough, and residences vied with business places in the elaborateness of their decorations. Flags and streamers everywhere, masses of bunting, and at several of the street intersections arches bearing words of welcome. Some of the buildings displayed old portraits and other relics of a by-gone day. Beneath one arch was a painting of Berwick in 1786, but as it represented not log cabins, but a three-story mill, stone arch bridge, a four-horse coach, and other later accessories of Berwick life it is to be feared the artist was not versed in the antiquity of his town.

The crowds began pouring in at an early hour, special excursion trains being run on L. & B. and the Pennsylvania, by the G. A. R. posts of Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and other points. The Wilkes-Barre and Pittston train consisted of 16 crowded coaches. The Scranton excursion, over the L. & S. and the Pennsylvania was belated by a cave-in near Moosic and did not reach Berwick until the parade was over. They were headed by Bauer's band and had a very creditable parade of their own, comprising Ezra Griffin Post, Col. Monies Post and another band.

Really the only people who deserve much credit are the members of the Five Counties Veteran Association. They turned out in full force but the local Centennial observance was almost a flat failure. There seems to have been an utter lack of organization. The crowd was here, five thousand visitors, but there was nothing outside of the veterans' display to entertain them—not even a speech.

The parade was quite a creditable one and was made up of veterans, Sons of Veterans, Sons of America, fire companies and a band of hostiles—from Shickshunny. The day was a perfect one, though hot for the marchers, particularly the older men, and the streets, well, they were shoe deep with dust. The chief marshal's duties were skillfully performed by Col. A. D. Seely. The line was headed by a trim company of well dressed and well drilled boys, the Berwick Guards,

commanded by the veteran, Capt. Hoff. In the first carriage Francis Evans, a descendant of the original settler, and his guests, Gen. Edwin S. Osborne, Col. A. Wilson Norris and Dr. C. H. Wilson. In the other carriages were Col. Laycock, Major John B. Smith, Capt. Harry Gordon, Dr. W. R. Longshore, Capt. Wren, Major McKune, Hon. Lewis Pughe and others. Ely Post and Keith Post, of Wilkes-Barre, were in strong force accompanied by the excellent juvenile drum corps. There was also Capt. Asher Gaylord Post, of Plymouth, Lape Post, of Nanticoke and representatives from other posts. There was also a numerous company of survivors of Southern prisons. The expected 9th, 12d and 13th Regiments, N. G. P., did not come. Shamokin, Harveyville and Berwick were represented by camps of Sons of Veterans, Nanticoke and Seybertville by Sons of America, and Berwick by Odd Fellows. Danville, Bloomsburg and Berwick had some well equipped fire companies, and Shickshinny sent a tribe of "Mocanqua Indians," who took a prisoner, tortured him and held up his reeking scalp before the horrified multitude. Women who fainted could be restored only upon learning that the Indians were only make-believes, that the "prisoner" was a bald-headed man, that the scalp was only awig, and that the hemorrhage came from a bladder of blood under the wig. The Mocanquas are not really so bloodthirsty as they seemed.

The parade terminated at the fair grounds, where the visiting organizations were regaled with barrels of coffee, huge boxes of sandwiches and gallons of pickles, dispensed from the several buildings. The grounds were alive with devices for fleecing the unwary, and hundreds of dollars found their way into the pockets of the traveling sharpers. By this time, 1 and 2 o'clock, it was boiling hot, and the crowds eagerly sought the cover of the grand stands and whatever other shade could be found. The populace were disappointed at not hearing some addresses. Neither Gen. Osborne nor Col. Norris were brought out, as both were Republicans, and there were no Democrats to offset them. Both Hon. Charles R. Buckalew and Col. R. B. Ricketts had been invited, but were not present, so Osborne and Norris were not called from their carriage. The Veterans' Association held its annual meeting in the judges' stand and elected officers. For president, Capt. Harry M. Gordon, of Plymouth, was succeeded by James R. Euret, of Pittston; Dr. C. H. Wilson, of Plymouth, as secretary, by Col. C. K. Campbell, of Pittston and John Y. Wren, of Plymouth, as treasurer, by Thomas English, of Pittston. The new vice presidents elected were Major Post, of Shickshinny,

and C. B. Metzger, of Wilkes-Barre. Brief addresses were made by Mayor McKune, Capt. De Lacy, Capt. Gordon and Chaplain Stall. The veterans were mostly from the First Army Corps, in which Col. Norris has figured so prominently of late, and most of them were from the 149th (Gen. Osborne's regiment) and the 143d. A very pleasant informal reception was given Gen. Osborne at his carriage, which was near the judges' stand, by his comrades in arms. Several other corps were also represented. The next annual meeting will be held in Pittston.

The addresses were much interfered with by a game of ball a few yards away, contested by the Berwick and Hazleton clubs.

#### "PROVISO" WILMOT.

**A Stranger Stumbles Over His Mother's Forgotten Grave—Sketch of the Anti-Slavery Democrat Who Studied Law in Wilkes-Barre.**

A gravestone has been set up over a long-forgotten grave in the old Bethany burying ground, in Wayne County. The existence of the grave was discovered some time ago by a man who was walking through the brier-choked burial place. He struck his foot against something in the weeds, and on investigating found a weather-stained headstone lying flat on the ground. He raised it up and, scraping off the moss that had grown upon it, he deciphered the following inscription.

.....  
 In Memory of  
 MARY,  
 Wife of Randall Wilmot,  
 Died Nov. 19, 1830,  
 Aged 28 Years.  
 .....

Randall Wilmot was the father and Mary Wilmot the mother of David Wilmot, of "Wilmot Proviso" fame. Randall Wilmot kept a tavern at Bethany in 1814, and David Wilmot was born in the house on Jan. 20 of that year. The tavern is still standing. Randall Wilmot moved to the West in 1833, after marrying a second wife. He and his second wife are buried in Cortland, Ohio. David Wilmot is buried at Towanda, Bradford county. Citizens of Bethany have replaced the old tombstone at the head of his mother's long-unknown grave, and will build an enclosure around it.—*Honesdale Independent*.

"Dave" Wilmot achieved a national reputation by reason of his battle for human rights, and the document which grew of it, the famous "Wilmot Proviso." Wilmot studied law in Wilkes-Barre, and at the age



of 30 received the unanimous nomination of the Democracy in the Congressional district embracing Bradford, Tioga and Susquehanna Counties. He was elected and took his seat at the opening of the 29th Congress in December, 1845. The annexation of Texas, which Mr. Wilmot, in unison with the Democratic party of the North, had supported, was consummated in 1845 and was speedily followed by war with Mexico. The Wilmot Proviso provided that in any territory acquired from Mexico, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude should ever exist except for crime. The following year he was unanimously nominated and elected and was again nominated in 1850. At this juncture the pro-slavery Democrats set about to defeat him. Mr. Wilmot at once offered to give way to any person who would represent the principle for which he was contending. Hon. Galusha A. Grow was named by Mr. Wilmot as an acceptable candidate and he was thereupon elected, Mr. Wilmot being elected president judge, a position held by him from 1851 to 1857. He resigned in the latter year, and his anti-slavery principles having rendered the Democracy distasteful to him, he embraced the principles of the opposition and became the Republican candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania though he was defeated by Wm. F. Packer, it was claimed, through the treachery of the KnowNothings. He was restored to the bench by appointment and again by election. In 1861 he was elected to the United States Senate to fill a vacancy created by the selection of Gen. Simon Cameron, as Secretary of War under President Lincoln. He served two years in the Senate and was succeeded by Hon. Charles R. Buckalew. President Lincoln appointed him a Judge of the Court of Claims which office he held up to the time of his death, at Towanda, March 16, 1868.

An exhaustive sketch of this distinguished Pennsylvanian appears in Mr. C. F. Heverly's History of Towanda, recently published by the *Reporter-Journal*, giving the early history of the settlement and sketches of the eminent men who have resided there.

In the Shickshinny *Echo* for Aug. 13 is concluded the series of historical articles on Huntington Township, Luzerne Co., by Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman. It is the purpose of the author to enlarge and re arrange the matter for publication in book form. Mrs. Hartman has rendered her section of the county a favor that might well find imitators in every other township. Her work has been painstaking and thorough and the volume as a monument to her will be more enduring than marble.

In 1793 Wilkes-Barre was the post office for the whole county.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT BRICKS.

**How Much Easier They are Made Now Than in a Generation or Two Ago—A Wilkes-Barre Yard Turns Them Out in Larger Quantities.**

Sixty years is not a very long time, counting in the life of a nation, and yet when we consider the advancement made in all branches of art and science, as well as the commoner affairs of life within this period of time, we can but wonder how our fathers managed to exist in times of primitive simplicity. The industry, for we cannot call it art, of brickmaking, we know from history was practiced almost from the dawn of man's first advancement from mere animal existence. The Egyptians at the time of the Israelitish captivity made bricks by mixing straw with the clay, but we presume they were of the adobe type as made in Mexico at the present time merely sun dried masses of a foot wide and two feet in length, which serve the purpose very well in a dry climate like Egypt or Mexico. Fine burned bricks are found in the ruins of ancient Babyton, yet few of the houses are constructed of so costly a material.

The art of brick-making in this country has advanced very materially within the memory of some of our older inhabitants. It is still remembered by a few among us, the time when it was a pretty serious undertaking to make and burn a kiln of bricks. The clay had to be dug out and heaped up all winter subject to the freezing process, in order to properly disintegrate the clay; it was then placed in a circular pit to the depth of a couple of feet, and in the spring two or three pairs of oxen were turned in and driven round and round like horses in a circus ring, until the clay was reduced to the proper consistence and fitness for moulding in a double or single mould.

This, of course, was a slow process, and to make even 50,000 bricks was something of an undertaking. Upon visiting the brick-yards of Messrs. Dickover & Son on North Washington street, a few days ago, we could not help comparing their way of making bricks with the old one, very much to the advantage of the new. Now the clay may be reposing in its bed where it has lain for countless ages, in sheets like the leaves of a book. Two stout Huns spade it out and shovel it into a cart, after which it is dumped at the mixing machine run by a powerful steam engine. Two men here shovel it into a hopper, from which it falls between two iron rolls running close together when it is crushed partially, and if there happens to be any stones in it, as is often the case, they are tossed out by an iron wheel standing at a right angle with the rollers and having projecting

teeth in its external periphery. As the crushed clay passes the rollers it falls on an inclined conveyor, having just enough water falling from an iron pipe to moisten it to the proper consistency. The conveyor carries it to the head of the grinder, where, after a severe churning, it reaches a receptacle at the bottom. A man stands in front with a lot of eight-compartment moulds, one of which he passes under the clay, grasps a lever and gives a pull downward. The clay is forced down on the open mould by a plunger attached to the engine. The mould slides out with eight well-formed bricks and is immediately seized by a workman and placed upon a truck, which, when loaded, is trundled off and dumped upon a sanded floor to dry. It requires the work of two laborers to carry away the work of one moulder. By this process 20,000 bricks are moulded each day when the weather will serve for drying and the time required in its passage between the clay pit and the drying floor is not above five minutes. In the burning of the bricks, too, there is now a decided advantage over the old process of wood burning. On our visit there we saw a 240,000 kiln fairly aglow with the heat from a number of small furnaces of anthracite coal beneath the arches. The burning was pretty nearly completed, and upon climbing to the top of the kiln and looking down into the cracks, we saw the whole mass as red as a cherry and pretty nearly ready for having the fire extinguished. It requires thirty tons of No. 3 coal to burn such a kiln, and when we consider the price of coal at the schutes less than \$2, the cost per thousand for fuel is not great. The senior member of the firm is an old time bricklayer, who fifty years ago handled the trowel here in Wilkes-Barre, and he takes pride in showing his old friends over the yard whenever they may choose to give him a call.

w. J.

#### Historical Notes.

The Bucks County *Intelligencer* for Aug. 14 contains an account of the Holcombe reunion and historical meeting at Mount Airy, Hunterdon County, N. J. Representatives were present from several New England and Eastern States, at least 700 connections of the Holcombe family. Judson Holcombe, of Bradford County, editor of the *Bradford Republican*, Towanda, was one of the speakers. He said he belonged to the Yankee Holcombe stock which settled in Ulster, Branford County, on the New York line, in 1785. The ancestors of his line came with their children to Pennsylvania, six sons and two daughters, all of whom settled in Bradford, with the exception of one boy, who settled in Herkimer County, New York. There were now residing in Bradford County,

besides those who had emigrated to different sections of the country, some 300 Holcombes and their connections. In Bradford they are scattered over 15 townships. The speaker's father, Hugh Holcombe, was a son of Eli, who came to Ulster in about 1785, at the age of 18. He left his father to cut his way through a dense wilderness. He and his brother took up about 300 acres of land under what was known as the Connecticut title, for \$1.50 an acre. Finally there came Pennsylvania claimants and they had to pay for the land a second time, so that ultimately their land cost them \$3 per acre originally. He then presented to the audience Alfred Holcombe, the oldest Holcombe of Bradford County, now 84 years of age. He lived on the old property, the ground where the pioneer settlers of Bradford of the Holcombe name in Bradford located.

The Doylestown *Intelligencer* of Aug. 14, contains a paper on the Aboriginal Remains in Durham and Vicinity, read by John A. Ruth at the July meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society. A most interesting account is given of the several finds. Mention is made of an ancient jasper quarry from which material was obtained for the manufacture of stone implements. Among them are found the stone hammers, which are cobble stones with battered edges. The author has 3,000 specimens of Indian implements. About 60 per cent. are made of jasper, 30 per cent. of shale and the remainder of quartz, chalcedony, etc. The articles comprise spear points, arrowheads, axes, plummits, sinkers, amulets, hoes, pipes, wedges. Among the collectors are Dr. J. S. Johnson and Benj. Purcell, Kintnersville; C. E. Hindenach, Durham; S. F. Wolf, Riegelville. Articles are constantly being found. The *Media American*, Chairman Thomas V. Cooper's paper, publishes a series of most interesting sketches on local history, over the signature of "Steele Penne." The article in the issue of July 23 was an account of a Media paper of 1826, then the *Upland Union* and contains many happy references to village life 60 years ago. As usual with papers of that day there was not a single item of local news in the *Union*. The feature of local news was reserved for a later generation.

The Doylestown *Intelligencer* for Aug. 10, contains the paper on American Archaeology, read before the Bucks County Historical Society at its July meeting by Rev. Dr. John P. Lundy, of Philadelphia. The subject is one of great interest and is treated in a most scholarly manner, though not applying locally to Pennsylvania.

In 1789 Anthracite coal was successfully used by Obidiah Gore.

In 1752 there was not a white man's cabin in the Wyoming Forest.

## EDWARD EMILIUS LE CLERC.

## A Historical Poem on Wyoming Which This Young Mexican Hero Wrote Over 40 Years Ago and Read at a Dickinson College Commencement.

The RECORD has been handed an old clipping of a poem delivered at the commencement exercises of Dickinson College, July 19, 1838, by Edward Emilius Le Clerc. There is nothing about the clipping to show date or name of paper but we learn from Pearce's *Annals of Luzerne* that it was published in the *Wilkes-Barre Advocate*, July 28, 1841.

Edward E. Le Clerc was the eldest son of Joseph P. Le Clerc, whose family residence was at the northeast corner of Union and Franklin Street. After graduating from Dickinson College he studied law with his brother-in-law, Jonathan J. Slocum. Soon after his admission to the bar, war was declared against Mexico, and in a short time thereafter two regiments of volunteers were called for as Pennsylvania's quota for the conquest of our Sister Republic. The Wilkes-Barre company under Capt. Dana at once offered its service and was accepted. Le Clerc was anxious to join the army under Gen. Scott, and being offered the position of lieutenant in a company being enlisted in Columbia County, entered the service and participated in nearly every engagement from the taking of Vera Cruz to the final assault on Chapultepec at the National Capital. He returned with the soldiers when the war was over, but broken in health, and possessing but a delicate constitution, did not long survive the many hardships he had endured while in the service. He possessed the true poetic genius and had he lived to maturer years might have shone more brightly in the galaxy of the true poets of Wyoming Valley.

As none save our older citizens ever saw the poem in print we take pleasure in reproducing it:

'Twas morn—

A summer's morn in Wyoming;  
And o'er her hills the god of day burst forth,  
(Clothed with the rosy tinted dawn. And as  
He yoked fast to their flaming car his fire  
Encircled steeds; and as his crown of light  
Peered forth from out a passing fleecy cloud,  
All nature woke, and every instrument  
Of praise she tuned, to warble sweetly forth  
Her gladdest songs of love and joy to Him,  
The bright eye of the universe.

Oh, 'twas  
A glorious sight to look upon, to see  
That lovely vale bathed in the morning light,  
And glittering in its sheen, as Eden did  
When Nature's self was young.

But then at eve—  
A calm and stilly eve, such as is found  
In southern climes, where an eternal summer  
Reigns, and brings to the sad heart a balm,  
Then far beyond the reach of mortal ken  
Is found the grandeur of the gorgeous scene.

For resting on the western mountain's tops,  
As in a sea of gold, the setting sun  
Reclined, in soft and mellow sadness, grieving  
As 'twere to bid adieu, and leave that vale,  
Which he so much did love to smile upon.  
And there reposed the lakes, forth shadowing  
Like silvered mirrors or like burnished gold,  
The hills in whose embrace they lay. Beyond  
Receding to the East the lofty woods  
And rocks sublime, the masonry of God,  
Tinged by the bright beams of declining day,  
Bore sportive semblance to the moonlit tower,  
Or battlement by time and storm decayed.  
So wondrous fair was then the beauty of  
The spot, that language, yea, conception fails  
Its loveliness to paint. It seemed the home  
The mountain home, of some bright fairy elves—  
The sporting place, at the dead noon of night  
For their wild pranks of glee.

But there was too  
A stream for beauty framed, in silver robed,  
Which ever and anon, while washing out  
The mountain's craggy sides that reared their  
heads

Pine crowned, far above, and in their arms  
Circled that beauteous spot, like to a kind  
And careful mother, who will permit not  
Even summer's spicy breeze, to blow too rude  
Upon the placid forehead of her sleeping babe.  
Then rushing onward to the mighty sea,  
The mouldering relics of that noble race  
Unearthed, who once unfettered, proud and free,  
Roamed through that vale, its lord.

But soon the scene was changed,  
For o'er that beauteous spot the demon form  
Of war did rush, and o'er that land devoted  
The sable pinions of his wrath he spread  
Shrouding in night the day star of their hopes,  
And brooding deeds of death.

On ran the hours  
And from a little fort, a hardy band  
Passed out to battle, in numbers, few but firm,  
Determined either to make free the loved  
Homes of their hearts, or perish in their gore.  
On, on, they marched in silence and in doubt,  
For they knew not the red men of the woods,  
Nor e'en their crafty wiles, when leagued with  
those

Fierce demons clad in human form, who recked  
Not what they did, but in the life blood of  
Their friends their guilty hands imbrued, un-  
moved

By conscience or by love.

But as they slow  
And cautiously, passed up the mountain's gorge,  
Which seemed for scenes of horror formed and  
blood,

The fatal whoop was heard, and in a moment  
Down fell, like rain in April shower, each man's  
Companion. No single form was seen, no sound  
Was heard, save bounding, that unearthly yell,  
From distant crag to crag, which echoing back  
It more terrific made, its own discordant  
Melody, and ere it died away, there came,  
Another, longer, louder, bolder, more  
Heart-rending sound, and with it fitted by  
The seared and blighted vision of that band,  
A thousand shadowy forms, and on they came  
The deadly simoon of the desert like—  
That little force withstood the dreadful shock  
Like brave men long and well, till with  
strength,

And not by valor, overcome, they fled  
Into the plain, and there surrounded by  
Their treacherous foes, a scene of woe ensued  
Such that ne'er mortal man or heart conceived,

So full, so overflowing full was made  
The measure of their misery. It seemed  
As if the Almighty in his fearful wrath  
For some great crime had wreaked his vengeance  
there.

There by the son was slain, him whom he owed  
His being; he who long had dwelt secure,  
Circled in sweet and social intercourse  
By friendship's golden chain, fell by that self  
Same friend, and thus they fought and fell, till  
left

Was scarcely one to tell the dreadful tale  
Of cruelty and death

But one there was escaped,  
Who having fled, upon the river's bank  
Concealed himself: The enemy pursued,  
And one outstripped his fellows far, when like  
Those blood-hounds, which in ancient times  
would track

The steps of man, so sought the monster even  
For human life, and pressing on a briery hedge  
He paused—and he who lay there a foot-fall  
Hearing, on the stranger looked. He looked  
again

More closely. 'Twas his brother!  
Springing from out his hiding place, and proe-  
trate

Falling at his brother's feet, he bade him  
Spare him, to save him from the torturing foe,  
E'en from the Indian. Their earlier happier  
hours

Recalled to mind those halcyon days of soul,  
When they from pleasure's gurgling founts did  
sip

Life's sparkling nectar. But 'twas all in vain,  
For he who can his country or his home  
Desert to espouse another foreign cause  
For safety or ambition's sake, must needs  
Lose all the kindlier feelings of his soul.  
Thus was it now, for turning round, he said—  
"I know thee not—wretch, die as thou hast lived,  
A rebel to thy king." And lifting up  
His heavy battle ax, it dashed upon  
His unoffending brother's head, who fell,  
Breathed but a prayer, then struggled, groaned,  
and died.

—Oh, if there is one crime above the rest  
That the Recording Angel in his book  
Marks with a blacker, more eternal seal—  
If there's a sin o'er which kind mercy sheds  
More bitter tears, 'tis that of fratricide.  
Oh horrible—it is most horrible  
To see those who have lived and loved together—  
Received their infant thoughts and strength from  
out

The same maternal breast, and those who owned  
The same dear bond of kindred and of love,  
Turn to be enemies, and if the God  
Of Heaven will more enduring, damning fires  
Call down on any one of his offenders,  
'Twill be on him who slays his brother.

But now  
'Twas night, and shooting up into the gloom  
Were streams of flame, and bright sparks flew  
around,

Like stars from heaven falling. For there was  
now

The savage conqueror, who having glutted  
Full his black heart with human gore, now  
sought

To devastate that lovely vale. And on  
They came, silent and terrible, silent  
As if they were the shadowy forms of those  
Inhabiting death's charnel house; terrible  
As is the voice of God, when mighty thunders  
Roar in their avenging ire. Still on

They came, and desolation marked their path—  
Nor age, nor sex was spared, nor e'en the haunts  
Of men, but there a universal storm  
Of fire, blasted each verdant field; consumed  
Each resting place, and e'en the temples of  
The living God destroyed; and thus they swept  
Along, till all that vale was rendered such  
A miserable, heart rending scene, that when  
The morning sun rose up, in clouds he veiled  
His face, with all the trappings of deep woe  
He clothed himself; for storms and darkness  
round

Him hung, mourning as parents would for some  
Young lovely child, or friend for friend, at this  
Loved vale's destruction.—

Years have  
Passed on, and yet no monumental stone  
Endless and aged, rearing its lofty front  
To heaven, and blazoning forth to all the earth  
The mighty object of its rise, now marks  
The spot where sleep that chosen band, though  
not

Unhonored and unwept, still to the world  
Unknown.—But there a simple grassy mound  
Of earth, wherein the dust-formal relics lay  
Of that true-hearted few, is now the sole  
Remembrancer of Fair Wyoming's Dead.

#### Relics of Frances Slocum.

[Chicago Times.]

A number of very curious Indian relics  
have just been unearthed in Wabash County,  
Ind. They have been in possession of mem-  
bers of the Miami tribe of Indians, to whom  
alone their existence was known. Among  
them is the cross worn by Frances Slocum,  
the famous female captive, who, with  
a very few other whites, escaped alive  
in the Wyoming massacre. The cross  
is eleven and one-half inches long  
and seven inches wide, and is of solid  
silver. It has been in the Miami tribe for  
more than a century. A medal presented to  
the Wyandotte tribe by George Washington  
and afterward presented by the Wyandotte  
chieftain to William Peconda, a Miami, has  
also been discovered. This medal, also of  
silver, is oblong in form, measuring seven  
by five inches. On one side occurs the words:  
"George Washington, President," and a  
medallion representing an Indian holding  
the pipe of peace to a colonist, while a toma-  
hawk is carelessly thrown aside. In the back  
ground is seen a pioneer at the plow. (On  
the reverse is seen the coat of arms of the  
United States. An offer of \$500 has been  
refused for this medal. Another medal, cir-  
cular in form and two and one-half inches  
in diameter is also held by a Miami. A  
pipe and a tomahawk, with the words "Peace  
and Friendship. A. Jackson, President,  
1820," are shown on one side, while two  
hands clasped ornament the reverse. The  
relics are regarded with great veneration by  
the Indians and unfeigned curiosity by the  
whites, and nothing can induce the red men  
to part with their treasures.

**Early Newspapers in Wilkes-Barre.**

An article in the RECORD made up from the Wilkes-Barre *Gleaner* of 1811 elicited an interesting letter from Judge Chapman, of Montrose, published in the *Independent Republican* and copied into the RECORD. Wm. P. Miner, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre, then addressed the following letter to the *Independent*, which the RECORD takes pleasure in reproducing:

**FRIEND TAYLOR:** Please say to our friend "C," who comments in the *Independent Republican*, of July 26, on "Notes from an Old Newspaper," that Asher Miner established the *Luzerne County Federalist* on the first Monday in January, 1801. In Number XLIV., of the October following, the word "County" was omitted, and in April 26, 1802, it was announced that "this paper will be hereafter published by A. & C. Miner."

May 1, 1804, the partnership was dissolved and Asher Miner removed to Doylestown, where he published *The Correspondent* for twenty years. The *Bucks County Intelligencer* retains at the head of its columns, "Established by Asher Miner in 1804."

The *Federalist* succeeded the Wilkes-Barre *Gazette*, owned by Thomas Wright, and published by his second son, Josiah, who announced, Dec. 8, 1800, "that several of his subscribers had been deceived by false reports that the *Gazette* was no longer to be continued, but that it was to be given up in favor of the *Federalist*." "It has been suggested that some zealous *Federalist* must have fabricated and propagated the malicious falsehood."

The difficulty between the Wrights and the Miners must have been amicably settled, as Asher Miner married Mary, the only daughter of Thomas Wright, the proprietor, and Charles married Letitia, only daughter of Josiah, publisher of the *Gazette*, and remained sole proprietor of the *Federalist* until Friday, May 12, 1800, when it passed into the charge of Sidney Tracy and Steuben Butler. Mr. Miner wrote:

"The talents, integrity and application of the young gentlemen who succeed me, are a pledge to the public that the paper will be improved under their superintendence."

Mr. Tracy retired Sept. 2, 1810, Mr. Butler retaining sole control for a few weeks.

Dec. 28, 1810, a prospectus was published for a newspaper to be called *The Gleaner and Luzerne Advertiser*, which was published by Miner & Butler. Sidney and Steuben had been apprentices in the *Federalist* office, and their names were household words in the family of Mr. Miner. Between the master and the boys there had been confidence and respect, reciprocal and sincere, which lasted through life.

Jan. 29, 1813, Mr. Butler retired, and Mr. Miner continued the publication until June

14, 1816, when "C's" uncle, Isaac A. Chapman, became proprietor. On retiring, Mr. Miner thus wrote to the patrons of the *Gleaner*:

"The beginning of the week I disposed of the *Gleaner*. On Saturday I leave Wilkes-Barre for Philadelphia to aid Mr. Stiles (with whom I have formed a partnership) in the management of the *True American*. My successor, Mr. Chapman, is too well known to need recommendation. He is intelligent, studious, assiduous to please, well versed in the general politics of the county, and minutely acquainted with the local interests of Luzerne and neighboring counties. With sentiments of affection and respect, I am, and shall ever continue bound to you till my heart is as cold as the clods of the valley."

CHARLES MINER.

June 6, 1817, Patrick Hepburn joined Mr. Chapman, and Sept. 25th became sole proprietor.

Mr. Miner, not satisfied with life in the city, left the *True American*, and declining an offer from Mr. Bronson, of an interest in the *United States Gazette*, purchased the establishment of the *Chester and Delaware Federalist*, at West Chester, twenty miles west from Philadelphia, and founded the *Village Record*, which he conducted successfully alone until 1825. June 29th the following notice appeared:

"The public is respectfully informed that a partnership has been entered into between Asher Miner and Charles Miner, and that the *Village Record* will, from the beginning of July, be published by the firm. Asher Miner is well known to the public, having edited and published the *Doylestown Correspondent* for 20 years."

Charles returned to Wyoming in 1832. Asher followed on disposal of the paper in 1834, when it was sold to Henry S. Evans, Esq., who had graduated, after apprenticeship and employment in the *Record* office, which secured him such entire confidence that he was invited to purchase and left to earn the money and make payments at his convenience. A confidence well placed, since the *Village Record* is still published and prospering under the management of the sons of Mr. Evans. M.

Wilkes-Barre, Ang. 5, 1886.

**Death of L. W. Stewart.**

[Daily Record, August 20.]

About 5:30 pm., August 19, Lee W. Stewart died at his residence in Shickshinny, aged about 65 years. He was a son of Lazarus Stewart, a great-grandson of Lazarus Stewart, a native of Scotland who came to this country and settled in Lancaster county in 1729. Capt. Lazarus Stewart, Lee's grand-father, lived on the flats just below Wilkes-Barre in a block house and was killed at the head of his company in the Wyoming massacre. Lee Stewart lived in Wilkes-Barre up to within about 20 years ago when he moved down to Shickshinny. He subse-

quently went on a farm just below Mocanaqua. When in Wilkes-Barre he followed the occupation of a wagonmaker. In late years he has devoted much of his land and time to the raising of strawberries in which he was very successful and made considerable money. He leaves a wife and two children, a son, Walter, about 30 years, and a daughter who is married and lives in Chicago. He was a member of Lodge 61, F. & A. M. The funeral will take place Sunday. The train will leave Mocanaqua 11:01 am. and the remains will be taken off at Butzbach's landing, the interment to be made in Hanover cemetery.

#### How Ira Tripp was Made Colonel.

A Providence correspondent of the *Scranton Republican*, (presumably Dr. Hollister,) gives the following pleasant reminiscence in the issue of Aug. 29:

Just forty years ago Ira Tripp was made colonel. At this time Lewis S. Watres, a large lumber dealer and a justice of the peace, lived in the sunny nook on the Lackawanna, known as Mount Vernon then, but now called Winton, a popular and thrifty citizen, a genial fellow full of hospitality and fun, and a Whig in politics. For many years he slashed into the forest on the mountain and sawed the pine logs into lumber which he sold to an Ellandville company of New York for \$8 and \$10 per thousand, now worth \$60. The sawmill and a single house beside his own made up the place.

In the spring of that year Mr. Watres received from Harrisburg a commission as colonel for Ira Tripp. At this time the only colonel living in the upper end of Luzerne was Colonel Darte of Carbondale. The commission was sent to Watres as he was the only prominent man in Blakely township, and besides this it was at his suggestion that the title was given. Esquire Watres drove down the valley to Tripp to deliver the document, in company with the writer in the spring of 1948. We found Ira in the field ploughing in his shirt sleeves. When the object of our visit was made known to him he was greatly surprised. He stopped his team, invited us into his house and regaled us with whisky, cake and cigars and this ended the matter. No newspapers were printed in the county between Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale, consequently the affair was known but by *fe. s.*

A handsome memorial volume has been published at Harrisburg, bearing this title: **THE BOWMAN FAMILY.** A Historical and Memorial Volume. By Rev. Dr. S. L. Bowman and Rev. J. B. Young. Harrisburg 1885: Publishing Department M. E. Book Room.

It is privately printed for distribution within the Bowman family and comprises 268 pages.

#### MARRIAGES.

**BENEDICT—WILLIAMS.**—In Pittston, Sept. 2, by Rev. D. C. Olmstead, Thomas Benedict and Miss Anna L. Williams, both of Pittston.

**CHEMBERLIN—ADAMS.**—In Binghamton, Aug. 31, by Rev. R. G. Quennell, J. E. Chamberlin, of Pittston, and Miss Jennie Adams, of Binghamton, N. Y.

**HEMMERSLEY—ECKROTE.**—In Camden, N. J. Sept. 5, John Hemmersley and Miss Dora Eckrote, both of Conyngham.

**KLECKNER—STILES.**—In Bloomsburg, Sept. 2, George Kleckner, of Nanticoke, and Miss Emma Stiles, of Bloomsburg.

**ROAT—TYRRELL.**—In Kingston, Sept. 8, by Rev. A. Griffin, E. C. Roat and Miss Jennie Tyrrell both of Kingston.

**STROUSE—ORR.**—In Phillipsburg, N. J., Aug. 26, William Orr and Miss Ella Strouse, both of Sandy Run.

**THOMAS—ELLIS.**—In Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 3, by Alderman Wesley Johnson, Daniel Thomas and Miss Jane Ellis both of Kingston.

**TRUMBOWER—RICHART.**—In West Pittston, Sept. 8, by Rev. D. Stroud, Charles Trumbower and Miss Jessie Richart both of West Pittston.

#### DEATHS.

**COLE.**—In Shickshiny, Aug. 29, Samuel Cole, aged 84 years.

**DUFFY.**—In Pittston, Aug. 31, Patrick Duffy, aged 61 years.

**GILLESPIE.**—In Fort Griffith, Sept. 6, Patrick Gillespie, aged 48 years.

**HARVEY.**—In Bear Creek, Amanda Laning, wife of William J. Harvey.

**LLEWELLYN.**—In Pittston, Sept. 3, John R. Llewellyn, aged 48 years.

**MCDOWALL.**—In Pittston, Sept. 2, John McDowall, aged 19 years.

**MCCOY.**—At Drifton, Aug. 23, Daniel McCoy, aged about 70 years.

**MORAN.**—At Freeland, Sept. 1, Thomas, son of John Moran, aged 11 years.

**OWENS.**—In Hamtown, Sept. 6, Hannonah, wife of James Owens aged 53 years.

**PATTERSON.**—At Jeddo, Aug. 26, John W. Patterson, aged 20 years.

**ROBERTSON.**—In Hooney Brook, Sept. 6, Mrs. Ann Robertson, aged 77 years.

**SHALES.**—In Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 5, Nathan, son of Lewis S. Shales, aged 8 years and 7 months.

**SHIVELY.**—In Scranton, Sept. 4, Sylvester Shively, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, aged 51 years.

**WITMAN.**—In Hanover Township, Sept. 4, Mrs. Samuel Witman, aged 63 years.

**WANDEL.**—In Plymouth, Aug. 25, Wesley G. Wandel, aged 40 years.

**WILLIAMS.**—At Drifton, Aug. 30, Margaret wife of John D. Williams, aged 46 years.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

OCTOBER, 1886.

No. 2.

## The Family of Capt. Lazarus Stewart.

[Contributed by Dr. W. H. Egle, Harrisburg.]

In the Record's notice of the death of Lee W. Stewart, of Shickshinny, it is stated that "he was a son of Lazarus Stewart, native of Scotland, who came to this country and settled in Lancaster County in 1729," and also that "Capt. Lazarus Stewart was Lee's grandfather." I naturally turned to my notes of that family and also to Mr. Plumb's very valuable History of Hanover Township. As I hope to complete a genealogical record of this family for a second volume of Pennsylvania Genealogies, and in the hope of obtaining additional information, I beg leave to present the following contributions:

LAZARUS STEWART, the first emigrant, came with his family from the north of Ireland to America, in 1729. The same year he settled on a tract of land "situate on Swahatawro Creek," in afterwards Hanover Township, Lancaster Co. With the aid of two Redemptioners, whose passages were paid by him, he built within that and the two years following a house and barn, cleared twenty odd acres of arable land and planted an orchard. He died about 1744. His farm was a long time in dispute, owing to the fact that the warrant never having been issued, his son Lazarus took out a warrant for the same land. After the death of the first Lazarus' wife, a suit was brought by William Stewart, eldest son of John Stewart, for the recovery of his share in his grandfather's estate. A distribution was made in 1785, and it is from this that we have the foundation for the record here given. Mr. Plumb states that the first Lazarus Stewart had children, *Robert* and *Alexander*, Capt. Lazarus Stewart being the son of the former. According to my authority, which is the original records in the settlement of the estate, his children were as follows:

- i. *John*; m. *Frances* —.
- ii. *Margaret*; m. *James Stewart*.
- iii. *Margery*; m. *John Young*, and left issue;
- iv. *Lazarus*; who m. and left issue; nothing further known of him; probably removed to Western Pennsylvania, as a Lazarus Stewart was a sheriff of Allegheny County about the close of last century.
- v. *Peter*; prior to 1760 removed to North Carolina.

vi. *James*; removed with his brother to North Carolina.

vii. *David*; m. and removed to North Carolina.

*John Stewart*, eldest son of Lazarus Stewart, d. April 8, 1777, in Hanover Township, Lancaster Co., aged about 65 years. His wife, *Frances* —, d. November 16, 1790. Their children were as follows:

- i. *William*; m. *Mary* —.
  - ii. *Lazarus*; m. *Dorcas Hopkins*.
  - iii. *George*; m. *Rebecca Fleming*.
  - iv. *James*; m. *Margaret* —.
  - v. *John*; m. *Margaret Stewart*.
  - vi. *Mary*; m. *George Espy*.
  - vii. *Jane*; m. — *Armstrong*.
- Mr. Plumb gives the 2d, 8d and 6th as children of Alexander Stewart.

*Margaret Stewart*, eldest daughter of Lazarus Stewart, senior, married *James Stewart*, of Hanover, a cousin or second cousin. Their children were:

- i. *Charles*; b. about 1732; m. and left issue.
- ii. *Lazarus*; b. about 1734; the "Paxtang Ranger," Capt. Lazarus Stewart; m. *Martha Espy*.

iii. *James*; b. about 1737; m. *Priscilla Espy*; and had one son, *Lazarus*. *Priscilla Espy Stewart*, when a widow, married Capt. *Andrew Lee*. From Lazarus, the son of *James*, comes *Lee W. Stewart*, lately deceased.

Capt. Lazarus Stewart, (son of Margaret Stewart and James Stewart,) who fell in that doleful massacre of July 3, 1778, m. *Martha Espy*. Of their children, the information which follows was received from Hon. *Stewart Pearce*, author of the "Annals of Luzerne County," a year prior to his death, Oct. 13, 1882. He writes:

"Enclosed I send you all I know about Capt. Stewart's descendants. Respecting himself see "Annals of Luzerne." The date of his death in that book is wrong. He was born in 1733, and married *Martha Espy*, whose father lived in Lancaster, now Dauphin County. I do not know the date of his children's birth or death.

"Their son *JAMES STEWART* married *Hannah Jameson*, whose children were *Martha*, married *Abram Tolles*; *Frances*, married *Benjamin A. Bidlack*; *Abigail*, married *Abraham Thomas*; *Caroline*, married *Rev. Morgan Sherman*; *Lazarus* and *Mary*, who both died single. My father, *Rev. Marmaduke Pearce*, married *James Stewart's* widow

and had three children, *Stewart*, *Cromwell* and *John*. My father named me in honor of my mother's first husband.

"ELIZABETH STEWART married Alexander Jameson, whose children were *William*, who m. *Margaret Henry Robert*, who d. unmarried; *Minerva*, who m. Dr. A. B. Wilson; *Elizabeth*, who m. Rev. Francis Macartney; *Martha*, who d. recently unmarried.

"JOSIAH STEWART m. Mercy Chapman, removed to Western New York at an early day, but I have not been able to trace him out. He had two daughters, one named *Hannah*, the name of the other I do not know.

"MARY STEWART m. Rev. Andrew Gray. Mr. Gray was born in County Down, Ireland, Jan. 1, 1757, d. Aug. 13, 1839. He lived in Paxtang and came to Wyoming, and settled in Hanover, where he preached. He was a Presbyterian. He removed to Western New York, was a missionary several years among the Seneca Indians, and finally settled at Dansville, Livingston county, N. Y. His children were *James*, m. *Rebecca Roberts*; *Margaret*, m. *Richard Gillespie*; *Jane*, m. *Daniel Gallatin*; *William*, d. unmarried; *Andrew*, left home young and was never heard from; *Maria*, m. *James Jack*; *Martha*, d. unmarried; *Elizabeth*, m. *Robert Perine*. I received this information respecting Gray's family from Mrs. Jane Knappenburg, a daughter of *Mattha Gray Gillespie*. Mrs. K. resides at Dansville, N. Y.

"PRISCILLA STEWART, m. Joseph Avery Rathbun, who also settled in Western New York. Their children were *John*, *Lazarus*, *Joseph*. They all married and have descendants at or near Almond, N. Y.

"MARGARET STEWART m. James Campbell. They both lived and died in Hanover Township, Luzerne County. Their children were *James S.*, who died unmarried; *Martha*, who m. *James S. Lee*; *Mary*, who m. *Jameson Harvey*; *Peggy*, who m. *James Dilley*. There are several descendants—Lees, Harveys and Dilleys—residing in the Wyoming Valley.

"MARTHA STEWART, d. unmarried.

"I advertised in western New York papers for information respecting the Grays, Rathbuns and Josiah Stewart. They all have descendants living there now, but I could not find out anything about Josiah Stewart's family any further than what I have stated."

I may add to this already too lengthy communication that I shall be very glad to receive information relating to this family of *Stewarts*.  
WILLIAM H. EGLE.

#### The Cleveland-Folsom Genealogy.

In Dr. Egle's Notes and Queries in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* is given the ancestry of President Cleveland, and incidentally of his spouse. It is that Deacon William Cleve-

land, the father of President Cleveland, descended from Aaron (1), Aaron (2), Aaron (3), son of Moses Cleveland, the first American ancestor. Deacon William Cleveland married *Margaret Falley*, who descended from *Luke Hitchcock* (1639), through *Margaret Hitchcock*, who married *Samuel Falley*. Their son, Rev. *Richard Falley Cleveland*, m. *Anne Neal*, of Baltimore, 1829, and had issue:

- i. *Anne Neal*, m. Rev. *Erotas P. Hastings*.
- ii. *Rev. William Neale*, m. *Anne Thomas*.
- iii. *Mary Allen*; m. *William E. Hoyt*.
- iv. *Richard Cecil*; died without issue.
- v. *Stephen Grover*; b. at Caldwell, N. Y., March 18, 1837; m. June 2, 1836, *Frances*, daughter of *Oscar Folsom*, descendant in the eight generation from *John Folsom*, who came to America in 1640.
- vi. *Margaret Louisa*; m. *Norval B. Bacon*.
- vii. *Lewis Frederick*; died without issue.
- viii. *Susan Sophia*; m. Hon. *Lucien T. Yeoman*.

ix. *Rose Elizabeth*; b. June 13, 1846; unmarried.

Both the President and his wife are descendants of a long line of clergymen of the Presbyterian faith.

#### A Great-Great Grandmother Dead.

Nearly a century ago, or to be more exact, on the 19th day of May, 1791, there was born in Greenwich, N. J., *Moriah Arnold*. The child grew to womanhood, married *Andrew Raub*, became a mother, then a grandmother, later a great-grandmother, and finally a great-great-grandmother—a dignity which attaches to but a very favored few. She lived a happy and useful life, shedding sunlight into hundreds of homes, ministering to the sick and bestowing alms upon the poor and leaving her children and theirs the benediction of a lovely life, she passed from earth Wednesday, Aug. 18 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Addison Church, in Luzerne Borough.

"Aunt Moriah" was what she was called the country round, and a host of warm and loving friends she had. She married at her native town when 23 years old, and three years later came to the Wyoming Valley, where she was to spend 69 years amid peace and plenty. Her husband came first to Wyoming Valley in 1816 to visit his friend, *John Sharps* (father of the late *Jacob Sharps*), who was also from the same Jersey town as himself. Mr. Raub was wont to tell his children ever afterwards about that visit, for it was during the cold summer of 1816—a year when every month had its frost. He used to say that in June there was a snow-storm which bore heavily upon the wheat, then in bloom; that many of the farmers took clothes-lines and scraped the snow from the bending grain; that those who did



this lost their crops, while the ones who trusted to nature had no harm come to their grain; and that when the harvest finally came the farm hands went to the fields wearing their great-coats.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather Mr. Raub determined to make his home in this beautiful valley and he brought his wife the following year and purchased a farm in Kingston Township. On this spot he and his good wife lived 45 years, until his demise in 1862, and she has never lived more than a mile distant from the original home. Mrs. Raub drank from the same spring during all these 69 years and it still yields refreshment to the families of Samuel Raub and Addison Church. During the last dozen years, when the infirmities of age came upon her, Mrs. Raub lived with her daughter, Mrs. Charch, who lovingly and patiently ministered to her every want. A year ago last March she made a mis-step while walking across her bedroom floor and sustained a fracture of the hip, as a result of which she took to her bed and never left it. Her decline was then rapid. As her bodily powers became weak her mind lost its vigor and became dim. The sunshine gave way to mental torpor and the once active memory became almost a blank. Thus she sank peacefully and painlessly into her last sleep of earth. During life she was warmly attached to the Presbyterian Church, of which she was a communicant, and in the consolation of its doctrine she passed from earth without a murmur.

Her surviving children are: Nancy, wife of James Atherton, Osceola, Pa.; Mrs. Surrenda Mathers, Luzerne; Andrew Raub, Dallas; Samuel Raub, Luzerne; Mrs. Martha Bonham, Luzerne; Mrs. Mary Bonham, Elkland, Tioga County; Mrs. Addison Church, Luzerne.

Mrs. Andrew Raub, was buried on Friday afternoon from the residence of her grandson, Addison Church, in Luzerne Borough. Services were held at the house at 3 pm., Revs. H. H. Welles and E. Hazard Snowden officiating. An appropriate hymn was also sung by some of the ladies present. The gathering of friends and relatives was very large, and a long cortege of carriages followed the remains to their last resting place in Forty Fort Cemetery. Brief services were also held at the grave. The following, all of whom are grandsons of the deceased, acted as pall bearers: J. W. Bonham, W. S. Bonham, Edgar E. Raub, Thomas R. Atherton, Andrew R. Mathers and Andrew G. Raub.

In 1767 the first church bell rang in a Moravian church at Wyalusing.

In 1770 the first house built in Pittston, a log building, was erected by Zebulon Marcy.

#### AN AGED MASON'S DEATH.

**Thomas W. Robinson Dies in this City at the Ripe Old Age of 83 Years—Sketch of his Life.**

Thomas Walter Robinson, died at his residence, corner of Union and Franklin Streets, at an early hour Tuesday, Aug. 12, surrounded by his sons and daughters, all save his son William, now advanced in years and living in the far West, being present at his bedside. The deceased for a year or more has been a sufferer from diabetes in a mild form, but until within the last month or so has kept up, being able to attend to his duties of tipstaff in the County Courts almost to the end.

Mr. Robinson was born in Yorkshire, England, in January, 1803, where he was married at the age of 19 to Miss Martha Todd, and with his young wife soon after emigrated to this country. He arrived in Wilkes-Barre in about 1828, where he obtained employment with Judge Matthias Hollenback, who kept a store at the corner of River and Market Streets, where J. H. Swoyer's office now is, and was also engaged in the milling business. Judge Hollenback died in 1829, but Mr. Robinson still continued with his son, George M., for several years. His principal duties were to attend about the store and drive a team for carting flour from the stone mill to Carbondale at the starting up of coal mining there. After working for Mr. Hollenback for a time he rented the oil and plaster mill of his employer situate in Hartsuff's Hollow, now Luzerne Borough, which he operated for a few years, and having saved up enough money to carry him to the far West soon after the close of the Black Hawk war, in 1832 or 1833, emigrated to Illinois and settled on Indian River, about thirty miles from Chicago, which at that time was merely a trading post; and land anywhere half a mile away from old Fort Dearborn could be entered at Government price, \$1.25 per acre.

While living on Indian River, where he had charge of a stage route to Galena, his wife sickened and died, and he with his two children, a girl and a boy, his son William, now living West, and his daughter, widow of the late Thomas Goucher, returned to Wilkes-Barre. After his return, for his second wife he married Emeline Hotchkiss, daughter of George Hotchkiss, who is now his surviving widow at near 75 years of age. He was engaged in various business enterprises, and while in the employ of George M. Hollenback ran the first boat load of coal that ever went from the Wyoming mines to Philadelphia; this was transported in what was called a Union Canal boat, passing down the Pennsylvania Canal to Middletown and thence crossing over by the Union Canal

to the Schuylkill at Reading, and thence down to Philadelphia. These Union boats were only of about twenty or twenty-five tons capacity, and the coal was delivered to Jordan & Brother, after which the boat brought a return freight of groceries to Mr. Hollenback's store.

After a few years sojourn here he again left for the West, going this time to St. Louis, but was again forced to return on account of sickness in his family. Since his second return he has been principally engaged in the confectionery and baking business in this city, in Kingston, in Pittston and in Hazleton. At one time he kept a place of entertainment on the southwest side of Public Square, which was a favorite resort and headquarters of the famous Mugletonian Society, composed of young men of that day of festive and convivial habits.

For the last ten or more years he has served as tipstaff in the county courts, and also as tiler and guardian of the outer door of the temple for the various Masonic lodges. Of this latter duty he was relieved a couple of years ago by reason of his failing strength, but the lodge kindly continued his salary as such while another performed the duty. He was one of the oldest members of No. 61, F. and A. M. He was also a member of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter and of Dieu-le-Vent Commandery, No. 45, of Knights Templar, and took a deep interest in the work of Freemasonry, both in the blue lodges and the more advanced brotherhood with which he was affiliated.

The dying patriarch was approached only a few days ago by a member of the Commandery, who inquired of him as to his wishes in case he should not survive his present illness. He promptly replied that old 61 was his first love and he desired nothing further than to be borne to his last resting place by the members of the Masonic fraternity. The principles of morality and religion as taught within the lodge formed at all time his religious creed, and he hoped and trusted that it would be by the strong grip of the lion's paw and on the five points of fellowship that the Supreme Grand Master would finally raise him from actual death, and whisper in his ear the word of a spiritual master mason that will admit him to full fellowship within that grand heavenly temple, not builded by mortal hand. Besides the son and daughter of his first wife he leaves four sons and one daughter, wife of Marcus Smith of this city. His second son, George S. Robinson, is a distinguished member of the theatrical profession.

In 1820 coal to the amount of 800 tons was mined in the Wyoming Valley.

In 1823 St. Stephen's Episcopal church, Wilkes-Barre, was completed.

#### STEPHEN BRULE.

##### The First White Man Who Descended the Susquehanna.

In his department of *Notes and Queries* in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* Dr. W. H. Egle publishes a most interesting account of the first white man who descended the Susquehanna River. The narrative is derived from John Gilmary Shea, LL. D., and is to the effect that one Stephen Brule crossed from Lake Ontario to the head waters of the Susquehanna, descended the North Branch to within a few miles of Shamokin, and furnished the Jesuit Fathers with the earliest information we have of the Aborigines of that section.

"Stephen Brule, whose eulogy of the country of the Neutrals, led Father de la Roche Dailon, to visit them, had, we must infer, already been in that part of the country, and been struck by its advantages. He came over at a very early age and was employed by Champlain from about 1610 and perhaps earlier. He was one of the first explorers, proceeding to the Huron country: and acquiring their language was to serve as an interpreter. (Laverdiere's Champlain, v. pp. 244, 268.) As early as Sept. 8, 1615, when Champlain was preparing to join the Hurons in their expedition against the Entouehonorons, in Central New York, Stephen Brule set out with a party of twelve Hurons from Upper Canada for the towns of the Carantouannais, allies of the Hurons, living on the Susquehanna, and evidently forming part of the confederacy known later as the Andastes, (Ib. p. 35) to secure their co-operation against the enemy.

He crossed from Lake Ontario apparently to the Susquehanna, defeated a small Iroquois party and entered the Carantouannais town in triumph. The force marched too slowly to join Champlain, and Brule returned to their country where he wintered. He descended their river (the Susquehanna), visiting the neighboring tribes, meeting several who complained of the harshness of the Dutch. At last he started to rejoin his countrymen, but his party was attacked and scattered by the Iroquois and Brule losing his way entered an Iroquois village. He tried to convince them that he was not of the same nation of whites who had just been attacking them, but they fell upon him, tore out his nails and beard and began to burn him in different parts of the body. He was far from being an exemplary character, but wore an *Agnus Dei*, and when the Indians went to tear this from his neck he threatened them with the vengeance of heaven. Just then a terrible thunder storm came up, his tormentors fled and the chief released him. After he had

spent some time with them they escorted him four days' journey and he made his way to the Atinouentans the Huron tribe occupying the peninsula between Nattawassaga and Matchedash bays on Lake Huron (Laverdiere's Champlain 1619, pp. 134 140, 1615 p. 28; Sagard, Histoire du Canada p. 466.)

He found Champlain in 1618, and made his report to him. It was apparently on this return march that he passed through the territory of the Neuters, as it would be his safest course. We find him in Quebec in 1623, when he was sent to meet and bring down the Hurons coming to trade. He returned with them, leading a very dissolute life among the Indians (as Sagard complained), Laverdiere's Champlain 1624, p. 81. When Kirk took Quebec he went over to the English, and was sent up to the Hurons in their interest in 1629, notwithstanding the bitter reproaches of Champlain. (Ib. 1632, p. 267.) Sagard, writing in 1636, states that provoked at his conduct the Hurons put him to death and devoured him. Sagard, Histoire du Canada, p. 466, Lejeune Relation 1633, p. 34. The latter fact is not mentioned by the Jesuits. From the remark of Father Brebeuf (Relation 1635, p. 28), it would seem that he met his death at the very town, Toanchain, whence Father de la Roche wrote. It was about a mile from Thunder Bay. — (Laverdiere's Champlain 1618, p. 27.)

Such was the fate of the man who was the first to cross from Lake Ontario to the Susquehanna, and pass from the villages of the Iroquois through the neutral territory to the shores of Lake Huron."

#### Poetry of Wyoming Valley.

John S. McGroarty, of this city, has recently published a handsome little volume of 118 pages on The Poets and Poetry of Wyoming Valley. It is dedicated to the compiler's colleague on the *Sunday Leader*, Mr. C. Ben. Johnson. As the preface says, the book is simply a collection of samples of the poetical literature of Wyoming Valley during the last 100 years. The idea is so excellent, and the tidbits furnished are so toothsome, one would like to have an entire spread, rather than the little lunch which is provided. However, the work can be amplified in subsequent editions, and we trust that the author will feel disposed to do so. Another feature, which would render a future edition much more valuable, would be its enrichment by footnotes, particularly in the cases of such of the writers as have passed over to the silent majority. For example it would be interesting for the general reader to know something of Uriah Terry, who as early as 1785, poetized the slaughter at

Wyoming which took place only seven years previously; of James Sinton, who in 1812, wrote of the Poor Man and the Doctor; of Richard Drinker, who in 1819 wrote an Address to a Land Tortoise; of Charles Mowery, author of A Yankee Song in 1803. More familiar names are those of Andrew Beaumont, a distinguished side of brave sons and accomplished daughters; Josiah Wright who published the *Wilkes-Barre Gazette* from 1797 to 1801; Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming, publisher of the *Wilkes-Barre Federalist* from 1802 to 1809, and of the *Gleaner* until 1816; Sarah Miner, the latter's blind daughter and faithful amanuensis, whose will now on file in the Register's Office, is the briefest on record; Isaac A. Chapman, who published the *Wilkes-Barre Gleaner* in 1816-17; Charles F. Welles, (1810), father of our townsman, John Welles Hollenback; Amos Sisty, editor of the *Wilkes-Barre Advocate* from 1838 to 1843, the paper which in 1853, under the ownership of William F. Miner, became the *Record* or *THE TIMES* of to-day. Of the writers recently deceased are Dr. Harrison Wright, Lizzie Gordon, (daughter of the late historical writer, James A. Gordon, Esq.) and Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Watres, (Stella, of Lackawanna,) one of the most talented poets who ever graced this region.

Hon. Steuben Jenkins, the most thoroughly versed Wyoming historian now living is represented; Caleb E. Wright, the able Doylestown lawyer, fisherman and novelist; Susan Evelyn Dickinson, sister of the well-known lecturer and actress, Miss Anna Dickinson; Hon. J. E. Barrett, editor of *Scranton Truth*; Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman, author of the history of Huntington Valley; Ione Kent, whom the Record readers have admired as "Francis Hale Barnard;" Will S. Monroe, who was offered the editorship of *Literary Life* previous to its offer to Rose Elizabeth Cleveland; E. A. Niven and "Tom Allen" Osborne, of the *Leader*; Timothy Parker, the veteran jeweler; Claude G. Whetstone, of the *Philadelphia Times*; Mrs. Mary B. Richart, originator of the Lake Winola legend; David M. Jones and Clarence P. Kidder, the poet-lawyers; the poet-physicians, Dr. Higgins and Dr. Doyle.

Though not strictly a Wyoming Valley writer Mr. McGroarty has inserted two exquisitely beautiful poems written by Homer Greene, of Honesdale, the ones that made him famous—My Daughter Louise and What My Lover Said.

Some of the poetry is crudity itself and is only interesting as preservative a variety of authorship. Much of it is excellent and a credit to our beautiful and historic Valley. Other writers—and the list is not as complete as it might be—are R. B. Brundage, P. A. Culver, Hattie Clay, P. F. Durkan, S. H.

Daddow, Mary Dale Culver Evans, David Edmunds, Bertha E. Millard, J. E. McDonald, T. E. Morpeth, P. J. McManus, Philip O'Neill, W. G. Powell, T. P. Ryder, Fred. Shelly Ryman, Alice Smith, R. H. Tubbs.

Mr. McGroarty himself contributes three pretty creations of his own—all in the sombre strain peculiar to the promising young author whose verse is never trifling but always dignified in its tone and pointing some good moral to adorn the tale. Though the volume shows evidence of undue haste in its preparation, yet it is a most creditable production and well worthy a place on the library shelf of every one who has any local pride in the history and traditions of the Valley of Wyoming—made famous already in verse by Campbell, Fitz-Greene Halleck, Mrs. Sigourney and Coppe.

#### PENNSYLVANIA VS. CONNECTICUT.

**Account of a Meeting of Luzerne Land Owners 18 Years After the Decree of Trenton, in Which They Still Defend the Connecticut Title**

[Contributed by Hon. Steuben Jenkins.]

The following account of a meeting of the Connecticut Settlers in Old Luzerne, sent me by Dr. Wm. H. Egle, of Harrisburg, is of some interest from the fact that it was held more than 18 years after the Decree of Trenton, and more than two years after the passage of the Act of Assembly, which, with its supplements, gave 17 of the disputed towns to the settlers for a mere nominal consideration. The residence of Peter Stevens, although at the time in the then township of Springfield, soon after was in Wyalusing. Old Springfield, on the east side of the river, was called Wyalusing, while that portion of it on the west side of the river was made into Terry, which was subsequently divided and a part of it called Wilmot.

The meeting tells its own story, and shows how strongly the settlers believed in the right and justice of their claim, and how bold and determined they were in defending it against every encroachment.

At a Meeting of Delegates from a number of Townships in the County of Luzerne, held at the house of Peter Stevens, in Springfield, on the 22d of May, 1801, to consult and advise on the most safe, prudent, legal and Constitutional Method of Defence against any Suits that are now pending, or may hereafter be brought against any settlers under the Connecticut Title, Daniel Kinne chosen chairman and Samuel Baldwin clerk.

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States provides that the judiciary authorities shall extend to controversies between citizens of the same State claiming lands under grants of different States; and

Whereas, By the laws of the United States it is provided that, in actions commenced in a State court, the title of lands being concerned, and the parties citizens of the same State, and the matter in the dispute exceed the sum of 500 dollars, etc., either party before the trial shall state to the court and make affidavit, if the court require it that he claims and shall rely upon a right or title to the lands, under a grant from a State other than that in which the suit is pending, etc., and shall move that the adverse party inform the court whether he claims a right or title to the land under a grant from the State in which the suit is pending: the said adverse party shall give such information or otherwise not be allowed to plead such grant or give it in evidence upon the trial; and if he informs that he does claim under such grant, the party claiming under the grant first mentioned, may then on motion, remove the cause for trial to the next Circuit Court, to be holden in such district, etc.

And whereas, We have settled on lands under a title derived from the State of Connecticut, antecedent to the settlement of the jurisdiction between the States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and do rely upon a right or title to the lands under a grant derived from the State of Connecticut; therefore

1. Resolved, That we will in every legal and constitutional manner, maintain, support and defend the Title to our Land, as derived from the State of Connecticut, in all suits commenced, or which shall be commenced in the Courts of the State or of the United States, and that it be recommended to the Settlers claiming and holding Lands under the Connecticut Title aforesaid, to unite with us in supported and defending the same in manner aforesaid.

2. Resolved, That three Agents be appointed to appear for us and in our Names to support and defend the Title of our Lands, held and claimed under the aforesaid Title in all Suits now pending, or that may hereafter be commenced as aforesaid, with full power and authority to engage Counsel, learned in the Law, to appear for us and defend said Title in the Courts of this State or of the United States.

3. Resolved, That Messrs. John Franklin, John Jenkins and Ezekiel Hyde be, and they are hereby appointed Agents for the purposes aforesaid.

4. Resolved, That we will each of us advance our equal proportion in money according to our Interest in the aforesaid Titles, and deposit the same in the hands of Agents or such Person or Persons as they shall appoint, for the purpose of maintaining and defending our just Title to our Lands aforesaid; and we also hereby recom-

mend to all Settlers holding Lands and relying on the Title aforesaid, to advance such sums, in proportion to the Interest they severally claim and hold under such Title, as will enable said Agents to employ Counsel and defray the necessary expenses, and prosecuting and carrying the foregoing resolves into effect.

5, Resolved, And whereas it has been represented to this Meeting by an instrument of writing under the hand of Abraham Horn, Esq., the Agent appointed under the Act of the General Assembly of this State passed the 18th of February, 1801, that he is authorized to acquaint the Settlers of Luzerne, that the Pennsylvania Landholders, agreeably to the Instructions given to the Agent, are disposed to offer an easy compromise.

Therefore, Resolved that our agents be and they are hereby directed to receive any proposals that may be made by the Pennsylvania Landholders or their Agents legally authorized respecting an amicable compromise of the land in controversy and report such proposals to the settlers aforesaid.

6, Resolved, That the foregone Resolutions be signed by the Chairman and Clerk, and that the same be published in the public Papers printed at Wilkes-Barre.

Signed, DANIEL KINNE, Chairman.  
SAMUEL BALDWIN, Clerk.

#### Bassett Family Re-Union

A re-union picnic of the descendants of Luther Bassett was held in Boyd's grove, near Danville, on Friday, Sept. 3. Luther Bassett was a son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Simpson Bassett, his father being of Irish, and his mother of Scotch descent, while in the veins of his wife ran German blood. The family all told (living members) numbers 111, of whom 58 were present. There are living five children, 32 grand-children, 44 great grand children, and five great-grand-children. Among those present were Dr. W. G. Weaver, of Wilkes-Barre; I. C. Kline, of Kline's Grove, formerly a teacher in the Wilkes-Barre public schools; Mrs. Margaret Morgan and three children of Kingston. Elliot R. Morgan, of Kingston, is also a relative.

The Doylestown *Intelligencer* of Aug. 21, contains a paper read before the Bucks County Historical Society July 27, by Rev. D. K. Turner on the Schools of Neshaminy. The same print also contains the paper on John and Jacob Holcombe, read at the joint meeting of the Hunterdon County (N. J.) Historical Society and the Holcombe family reunion, on Aug. 11, by Dr. George Holcombe Larison.

#### THE REDEMPTIONERS.

##### A Philanthropic Form of Servitude now Passed Away—How a Luzerne County Family of these People was Swept Away by a Cruel Fatality.

Of all the conditions of servitude in this country, those of the Redemptioners were least oppressive. They were those who, being too poor to pay in money for their ocean passage, contracted absolutely to serve for a term the value of which should equal the cost of their transportation. It is important to remember that they were *really sold*. The "contract" was probably made with the captain, or owner of the vessel which brought them, agreeing to be sold and bound, upon arriving here, to some person who, for the least number of years of their service to him would pay the cost of their passage. I doubt if any special law covering this condition of servitude was ever in existence; it is probable that the redemptioners were governed by the general laws referring to hereditary slaves and fief tenure. The cost of the voyage at the time the earliest settlers came to America was eight or ten pounds sterling, and it took five years of service in 1872 to repay this obligation. There was little variety in work here; it was usually agricultural or mere laboring. It is significant that, while the value of a white person in such circumstances was ten pounds, that of a negro was twenty-five pounds. Negroes had been enslaved in Africa, among each other, from time immemorial. They were first taken to Europe by the Portuguese in 1443, and to America (the Virginia Colony) by the Dutch in 1620. The conquering armies of Christendom likewise usually held their captives in slavery. To free the Christians among these latter an institution of religious monks was founded, which bore the name of Redemptioners, or Trinitarians, and it is supposed that our Redemptioners took this title from that institution. Perhaps the same name was applied to the prisoners of war sent here. The Scots taken in the field of Dunbar were sent into involuntary servitude in New England; and the Royalist prisoners of the battle of Worcester, (of whom the names of 270 are recorded) and the leaders in the insurrection of Penruddock were sent to America. The fact that their servitude was involuntary, however, differentiates them from the genuine Redemptioners. The Redemptioner's term of service could be transferred, but he was not in the position of an ordinary white servant, who was a frequent article of traffic, though the laws of the colonies favored their early emancipation. How many Redemptioners came to America can never be known; some came to

Luzerne County—among the rest Conrad Knoch, the humble narrative of whose life is very pathetic, and probably typical in general of many others. He was born in Germany in 1759, and, like a sensible boy, fell in love with a girl about his own age, which fired both of them with zeal to make life a success. But they were too poor to be married in Germany. The Redeptioner's plan came to their aid, and they landed in Philadelphia about 1784, were both purchased at their solicitation by the same person, at whose place they were married. There they worked like Germans till 1815 or '16, by which time they had not only redeemed themselves, but also saved enough to purchase 128 acres of land in Luzerne County, (Hanover Township,) as well as an abundance of the equipments of farming. A large family had by this time graced their union, and they all grew to man and woman hood, and one daughter married and became a mother; but here interposed one of the strange fatalities of nature; the father and mother and all of the children and the grandchild in quick succession were swept away as if by the hand of God. There is not an heir in America. The property descended to the nephews and nieces in Germany. They sold it for \$1,700 to the German Consul in Philadelphia, who had been appointed administrator of the estate and who resigned the office to purchase the property. His heirs now draw the royalty on the coal which was made possible by brave Conrad and Elizabeth Knoch.

G. H. R. PLUMB.

#### Indian Paint-Stones.

The paint-stone in the possession of Postmaster Hope, of Paint, Ohio, says a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette*, is about five inches long and three inches broad, and tapers to an edge like a stone hatchet. It is extremely heavy and looks like a smooth piece of polished iron which has been corroded, or like a piece of polished iron ore. A hole drilled through the middle makes a place for a string or thong of deer sinew by which it was attached to his belt by the Indian warrior. "What was this hatchet used for?" I asked Mr. Hope, picking up one of the paint stones. "Do you call that a hatchet?" he remarked; "look here a minute and I will show you."

He picked up a small saucer made out of granite and rudely fashioned on the principle of an India-ink saucer. He filled the hollow of the saucer with water and then rubbed the "hatchet" in it as he would have done a cake of water-color paint. In a few minutes he had a teaspoonful of brilliant vermilion paint. Applying some of it to the back of his hand in stripes it proved to be a brilliant vermilion flesh-dye, bright

enough to send the most dical Indian bear into raptures.

"This," said Mr. Hope, noting my look of amazement, "is an Indian paint-stone. It was found in this county and is a remarkably fine specimen. The Indians were accustomed to tie the paint-stones to their belts by means of thongs, and always carried them to battle. The mode of manufacturing them was quite remarkable. The Indians hunted up springs which contained oxide of iron. The iron in such springs always floats on the top in the form of a scum. This they would patiently skim off the surface with a rude spoon and collect it in a vessel which they used for the purpose. When they had collected a sufficient amount of 'skimmings' to make a paint-stone they added certain other substances, and then molded it into the hatchet shape which characterizes all the paint-stones left by the Indians. The method they employed in doing the molding is not definitely known. The springs in the neighborhood of Paint were remarkable for the amount of iron scum they yielded, and this region was a favorite resort for the Indians to make paint-stones. This one gives a bright vermilion tint, but there are others which give a bright yellow or a rich purple tint. With these colors the Indian braves could get themselves up in superb style. They would rub the paint-stone in water in this stone saucer, and then apply the stripes to their skins directly with the stone. The color which it yields does not rub off, but remains on the skin a long time. The exact recipe which the Indians employed in making the paint-stones will never be known, but the principle of all the coloring matter is the oxide of iron. This paint-scum can often be seen on the springs and streams in this vicinity now."

#### The Plumb Family in America.

G. H. R. Plumb, Esq., of this city,—whose father, Hon. H. B. Plumb, recently published a valuable History of Hanover Township, Luzerne County,—is collecting genealogical and other data concerning the Plumb family in America. Already he has on his list a hundred families, representing more than half of the States in the Union, and he expects to find a thousand more. The family name is variously spelled Plumb, Plumbe and Plum, and many of its representatives have become prominent in business, theology, statesmanship, law and the fine arts. Lawyer Plumb is rapidly adding to his mass of information by sending circulars to all of the family name of whom he can learn.

In 1800 the population of the county was only 12,839.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Interesting Proceedings at the Quarterly Meeting — Valuable Contributions — Electing New Members—Preparations for the County Centennial.

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society held its quarterly meeting Sept. 10. President E. L. Dana was in the chair. A. H. McClintock read the minutes. The list of contributions was read and a vote of thanks passed to the donors. The individual contributors were: A. J. Hill, M. J. Griffin, G. B. Kulp, G. M. Lung, Hon. J. A. Scrauton, C. W. Darling, C. B. Dougherty, Hon. R. H. McKune, Prof. J. C. Branner, Hon. C. A. Miner, J. G. Rosengarten, Robert Baur, F. C. Johnson, Rev. J. B. Gross, Lt. A. W. Vogdes, Dr. Harvey, John Reichard, Michael Roe, Wm. D. Averill, Dr. W. H. Egle, L. H. Low, A. P. Kunkle, A. H. Welles, H. C. Wilson, E. B. Yordy, W. P. Morgan, Dr. W. H. Sharpe, S. Reynolds, *Recorder, News-Dealer*, A. E. Foote, U. S. Commissioner of Patents.

The societies contributing were Natural History Society of New Brunswick, Historical societies of Virginia, Indiana, Iowa, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, Lackawanna Institute of History and Science, Dauphin County Historical Society, American Philosophical Society, American Antiquarian Society, Peabody Museum, Carbondale Y. M. L. A., Presbyterian Historical Society, Brookville Society of Natural History, Science, Canadian Institute, Library Company of Philadelphia, Yale College, United States Geological Survey, Old Residents' Historical Association.

George M. Lung presented some relics of the Moravian settlement near Wyalusing in the last century: John Reichard, 73 specimens of Colorado minerals; H. C. Wilson, Mt. Vernon, O., Indian relics: 6 drills, perforated stone, box of bone ashes, cement used in graves, two axes, 7 celts, and 225 spear or arrow points. Mr. Wilson believes that he can trace the development of arrow-making in the specimens which he has collected—several thousand in number—and he believes the "rifled" variety to be the perfection of the lost art. It has a rifled or beveled edge, which gives it a spiral motion when in flight. Nearly all the specimens he sends are from Knox County, Ohio, though one ax was found in Bonaparte Park, Bordentown, N. J., 11 feet below the surface. He sends, from a grave opened near Fredericktown, O., by himself and son, some decayed wood, burnt bones and a lump of cement, the grave containing two skeletons.

Morgan, Bros. & Co. presented the first factory-made shoe ever made in Wilkes-

Barre, and turned out of their factory in December, 1882.

Letters were read from Brinton Coxe, of Philadelphia, and George E. Waring, of Newport, accepting and returning thanks for their election as corresponding members.

Judge Dana submitted his report as meteorologist, of which the following is a synopsis:

The average temperature for August was 63 1-10 degrees, as compared with 66½ in 1885; 70 in 1884; 66 in 1883.

Average temperature for July was 67, as compared with 72 in 1885, 71¼ in 1884, 73 in 1883.

Rain fall in August was 3.12 inches, as compared with 7.77 in 1885, 3.41 in 1884, 3.84 in 1883.

Rain fall in July was 3.92, as compared with 3.19 in 1885, 4.59 in 1884, 6.41 in 1883.

Rain fall in June, 1886, was 2.81, 2.44 in 1885, 3.24 in 1884, 8 12 in 1883.

Rain fall in May, 1886, was 7 inches, 2.63 in 1885, 4.27 in 1884, 5.23 in 1883.

Mr. Reynolds acknowledged the receipt of the portraits of Wilkes and Barre, for whom Wilkes-Barre is named, from the Estate of Washington Lee.

Rev. H. E. Hayden presented a photograph of a burial urn found on the island of Ossabau, on the coast of Georgia. It contained the bones of an infant child and is in the possession of Mr. Wm. Harden, librarian of the Historical Society of Georgia, who sends to the Wyoming Society.

For corresponding membership the following were proposed: Wm. M. Darlington, LL. D., of Pittsburg, and Samuel W. Penny-packer, of Philadelphia, Dr. D. G. Brinton, of the Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia, Col. J. A. Price and W. A. Wilcox, president and corresponding secretary respectively of the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science; also Hon. Steuben Jenkins, for honorary membership. Benjamin F. Morgan, E. W. Horton, F. A. Phelps and J. E. Patterson were elected to membership.

Dr. Charles F. Ingham, the society's conchologist, read a most interesting and scholarly paper on meteors, with special reference to a supposed meteor found on the farm of J. Crockett, in Ross Township, and now in possession of the society. He pronounced the stone, which is about the size of a human head, not of meteoric origin. Dr. Ingham believes it to be anorthite, brought here in the drift period from the St. Lawrence or the Great Lake region.

Judge Dana brought up the subject of observing the centenary of the erection of Luzerne County and stated that he had been promised the co-operation of Dr. W. H. Egle, Col. Frank Stewart, Rev. David Craft, Hon. P. M. Osterhout, Dr. H. Hollister,

Rev. S. S. Kennedy, D. M. Jones, Esq., Hon. C. E. Rice, Hon. Stanley Woodward, Hon. H. B. Plumb, W. P. Ryman, Esq., and Hon. H. M. Hoyt. The date falls upon Sept. 25, and it was ordered that a meeting of the society be held on that day at 10 a. m., to listen to historical addresses. The Chair was empowered to appoint the necessary committees.

#### LUZERNE'S FIRST CENTURY.

##### The Occasion Commemorated by a Public Meeting Under the Auspices of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.

It was on the 25th of September, 1786, that Luzerne County was erected and the centennial of that event was commemorated with interesting exercises. The celebration was very properly held in the court house, Judge Woodward adjourning court at 10 o'clock, out of compliment to the historic occasion. Luzerne County has had no less than three centennial celebrations—that in 1872, in honor of the laying out of Wilkes-Barre; in 1876, in common with the National Centennial, and in 1878, the 100th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming. This being the case the present centennial lacked the feature of novelty and was permitted to pass without the pomp and circumstance usually incident to such occasions. The Wyoming Historical Society determined to not let the occasion go by unobserved and a meeting was arranged for, Gen. E. L. Dana being the chief mover in the matter.

The hour set was 10 o'clock, at which time Judge Woodward was still on the bench. He stated that in view of the historic event, so important to the county history, he had adjourned the court and ordered the fact to be spread upon the day's minutes as a perpetual record. The Judge then went on to give some historical data. He proceeded to read from the statute for erecting the county, which was an Act of Sept. 25, 1786. It provided that Luzerne County be set off from the northern portion of Northumberland County. He exhibited the first continuance docket or minute book of the county organized under the statute, from which it appeared that the first session of court was held May 29, 1787, in the house of Zebulon Butler. The first business was to organize. Dr. William Hooker Smith, Benjamin Carpenter, James Nesbitt, Timothy Pickering, Obadiah Gore, Nathan Kingsley and Matthias Hollenback were sworn in as justices of the peace. Timothy Pickering—who might have served as a prototype for Gilbert & Sullivan's *Poo Bah* in the "Mikado"—was made prothonotary, clerk of the Peace and of the Orphans' Court, register of wills and recorder of

deeds. Joseph Sprague was made court crier. Lord Butler, the first sheriff of the county, was instructed to take measures for the erection of a jail.

Judge Woodward exhibited the commission of Sheriff Butler, who was a grandfather of the Judge's wife. It bears the signature of Benjamin Franklin. The legal practitioners who were sworn in were Ebenezer Bowman, Putnam Catlin, Rosewell Welles and Wm. Nichols. The speaker exhibited the first legal paper, a *capias*, Sept. Term, 1787, Samuel Allen vs. Henry Burney, Catlin attorney. At that time the county contained only 2,730 taxables, now, the same territory has a population of nearly half a million. Having concluded his hasty retrospect Judge Woodward said he would come down from the bench and turn over the meeting to its proper custodian, the Historical Society.

Judge Dana, president of the society, took the chair and after a few appropriate remarks called upon Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, the oldest minister in the county, to open the exercises, and he addressed the throne of grace in language peculiarly adapted to the occasion.

Mr. C. Ben. Johnson read letters of regret from Gov. Pattison, the Rt. Rev. William Bacon Stevens, Dr. Coppee, of Lehigh University; Charles J. Hoadley, State Librarian of Connecticut; W. S. Stryker, Adjutant General of New Jersey; Henry B. Dawson, the New York historian; Miss Emily C. Blackman, author of "History of Susquehanna County;" Rev. Dr. David Craft, the historian of Wyalusing. Mr. Hoadley sent an interesting contribution—the commission of Jonathan Fitch as first Sheriff of Westmoreland, dated Hartford, Nov. 28, 1776.

Judge Dana read a brief but valuable paper—by Dr. Hollister, of Providence, who was unable to attend—on the "Birth of Luzerne County." In it reference was made to the attempt to locate the county-seat on the west side of the Susquehanna, and of Ethan Allen's scheme to bring his Green Mountain Boys here and establish an independent government in Wyoming.

Hon. Steuben Jenkins, the veteran Wyoming historian, read a paper descriptive of the government of Wyoming prior to the erection of Luzerne County. It had to deal with the Quarter Sessions, the speaker said, as Judge Woodward had with the Common Pleas. The troublous times were described, as also the local dissatisfaction with the new regime, which placed all the offices of profit in the hands of a single individual, Timothy Pickering, and he a Pennamite. The paper was a valuable contribution to local history.

Mr. C. I. A. Chapman took exceptions to



the language of the Act changing the boundary of the new county. He made the point that instead of changing the western boundary from W to N 1 degree W, as provided by the act, the change contemplated was from W to N 89 degrees W. The latter represented the contemplated change of one degree, while the former implies a change of 89 degrees, which was not contemplated. Mr. Jenkins replied that he was aware of the technical error, but he could not change the language of the Act.

A most elaborate and scholarly paper was presented by Hon. E. L. Dana on the Chevalier de la Luzerne, from whom the county derived its name. Most of the subject matter was entirely new, having been obtained by the speaker's son from the unpublished archives of the French Government. The paper revealed, what few people are aware of, how warm a friend Luzerne was to the struggling colonists and the practical aid given by him to the American cause. Not the least interesting was the official advice to Luzerne of the naming of a county for him, together with his reply, which was replete with words expressive of his love for America and for Pennsylvania, in which he had lived for a time.

The assistance given by the Paxtang Rangers to the Connecticut settlers at Wyoming in their contest with the Pennamites was graphically portrayed by Dr. W. H. Egle, of Harrisburg, who read an admirable paper on "The House of Lancaster to the Rescue." Dr. Egle was probably the best reader of the day, and his portraiture of the Hardy Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who rallied to the standard of the Yankees in their struggle against what they believed to be the tyranny of Pennsylvania was graphic in the extreme. Dr. Egle is one of the most extensive historical writers in the Commonwealth and the Historical Society was fortunate in securing his presence. His address was warmly received and generously applauded.

At this juncture the meeting adjourned until 2 p.m., when the regular order was again taken up, the first exercise being an original poem by Attorney David M. Jones, which was greeted with hearty applause.

Rev. S. S. Kennedy, traveling agent of the Luzerne County Bible Society, sent an entertaining paper, giving a historical sketch of the township of Abington, originally in Luzerne, but now in Lackawanna, and it was read in part by the chairman.

Another of the old townships—Putnam—was written up by P. M. Osterhout, Esq., of Tunkhannock, who was present and read his paper. It gave an amount of valuable data.

F. C. Johnson gave a synopsis of a paper

now being prepared by him, presenting what is virtually a chapter of unwritten history, referred to by only one historian, Miner, and disposed of by him in a sentence or two. The subject was "The Proposed Exodus of Wyoming Settlers in 1783." In that year the Connecticut settlers in Wyoming, discouraged by the Decree of Trenton, which had decided the land controversy in favor of the Pennamites, determined to seek the friendly shelter of another State. A petition was drawn up and signed by 400 settlers, asking the Assembly of New York to grant a tract of lands on the Susquehanna, beginning near the Pennsylvania line and continuing to Onoquago, immediate settlement to be made. The memorial was taken to Albany by Obadiah Gore, on horseback, where it met with favorable action of both Senate and Assembly. The exodus never took place, as such, though some of the petitioners did seek a retreat along the waters of the upper Susquehanna. As time passed by, Pennsylvania rule was found less oppressive than had been anticipated and the Wyoming people remained on their possessions. The paper was interesting as being made up of new material, the original petition, with signatures, having been furnished the speaker by the secretary of the Oneida Historical Society, and most of the other matter having been found among the State historical records at Albany.

William P. Miner, Esq., for many years editor and proprietor of the *Wilkes-Barre Record*, read a most entertaining paper on the progress of printing in Luzerne County. The paper began with an account of his trip on horseback from West Chester to Wilkes-Barre in September, 1832, having been promoted from the office of assistant devil in the *West Chester Village Record* to the position of imp of the ink balls in the office of the *Wyoming Herald* printed and published by Asher Miner and Steuben Butler. Mr. Miner described the primitive method by which the *Herald* was printed on a Ramage press, inked with wool-stuffed buckskin balls held in each hand. Mr. Miner alluded to these papers in his possession: *Wilkes-Barre Gazette*, 1797 to 1800; *Luzerne Federalist*, 1801 to 1811; *Gleaner*, 1811 to 1818; as well as many subsequent.

C. I. A. Chapman was called upon and made some extempore remarks on the changes in the landmarks of justice which he had witnessed in his lifetime—one the incapacity of woman to possess property in her own right, the other imprisonment for debt, and his recollection, when a boy, of seeing Rufus Bennett, the last survivor of the Wyoming massacre in jail for a paltry debt of a few dollars. Mr. Chapman exhibited a drawing of the old public square, made by him

20 years ago from memory, and showing the buildings as they appeared about 1840. The picture excited general interest.

The chairman called for extempore remarks upon Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke, Dr. Andrew Bedford, of Waverly, who has been a Luzerne medical practitioner upwards of 60 years; Mrs. M. L. Hartman, author of a History of Huntington Valley; Dr. Harry Hakes, Hon. Lewis Pughe, Wesley Johnson, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Rev. H. E. Hayden, and Evert Bogardus, Esq., of Norwalk, Ohio. All responded briefly. Mr. Bogardus gave some interesting reminiscences. The son of Jacob I. Bogardus, he was born in three townships—Bedford, afterwards called Dallas and subsequently set off as Lehman. He remembered when his father's nearest neighbor was Thomas Case, 2 miles north; John Whiteman, 2 miles northwest; Amos Brown, 2½ miles east. Mr. Bogardus was still loyal to old Luzerne, and pronounced it the finest region he had ever seen.

The Luzerne Bar and Bench were largely represented, also the court house officials. Among the out-of-town visitors were W. A. Wilcox, Esq., Scranton; Alvin Day, Tunkhannock; Pierce Butler, Carbondale; Rev. H. H. Welles, of Kingston, H. B. Plumb, Esq., author of "History of Hanover Township;" Col. Allabach, of Washington, the Mexican veteran who carried the American flag in the charge on Cherubusco; Rev. J. K. Peck, preacher and author; Will S. Monroe, a descendant of John Franklin and Capt. Ransom; Miss Geraldine Colver, sister of the writers.

Prior to adjournment at 4:30 Judge Dana announced that the several papers would be published by the society.

#### REV. BOSTWICK HAWLEY.

**A Clergyman of 40 Years Ago Writes His Reminiscences of Wilkes-Barre and Encloses an Original Letter of Hon. Charles Miner.**

The RECORD is enabled, through the courtesy of Mr. G. S. Bennett, to lay before its readers an interesting letter from Rev. Dr. Bostwick Hawley, who preached to the Methodist congregation here in 1847. He is very pleasantly remembered by our older citizens, who will be glad to hear from him and to know that he is enjoying a ripe old age in Saratoga. His letter is as follows:

GEORGE SLOOUM BENNETT, A. M.—Esteemed Friend: After a lapse of twenty-two years I have read for a second time the History of Wyoming, by my late and excellent friend, the Rev. George Peck, D. D., and with deep interest. Though more than forty years have passed since I became the pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and a resident of Wilkes-Barre, this re-reading of

the instructive volume took me in vivid thought over the whole valley, as it then was—beautiful, fertile, enterprising, from the Narrows and Campbell's Ledge on the north to Nanticoke and Plymouth on the south, including the two central points, Wilkes-Barre and the "Plains" on one side of the Susquehanna and Wyoming and Forty Forty Fort on the other. Wilkes-Barre was then a beautiful village, and Wyoming a rural gem. The whole region was unbroken and unmarred by coaling operations and by railroads, except the Baltimore mine near at hand. Jacob's Plains, where I preached once in two weeks, was a beautiful region of farms and farm houses. In the little white church, now displaced by a larger one, was gathered an intelligent congregation and an excellent Sunday school. Of them I distinctly remember the Stark, Carey, and Abbott families. The late Rev. W. P. Abbott, eloquent and popular, was then a Sunday school lad, on whose head I gently placed my hand and said, "You will make a man yet." So he informed me when he was a pastor in Albany, N. Y., and that he had thence on kept track of me.

The large, intelligent and wealthy congregation that then worshipped in the old, historic and tall-steeped white church on the Square, included many whose names and features live pleasantly in my memory; among them are your honored parents and their then unbroken family; Pierce and Lord Butler, my next-door neighbors, the Hon. Andrew Beaumont and family, the Hollenbacks, Judge Conyngham, Gen. Ross and family, the Wood families, Sharp D. Lewis and family, two of whom then died as verging to maturity, Rev. B. Bidlack, Mr. and Mrs. Drake, W. W. Loomis, the Keslers, Father Moister, McAlpine and others, whose portraits adorn the walls of my mind. The family of the Hon. Charles Miner, the historian, to whose volume Dr. Peck frequently refers, and whose rural home was near by, is vividly recalled because of the intelligence of its several members, especially of Sarah, cultured and interesting in her blindness. Poet, musician, and dexterous, she was highly attractive and much beloved.

My residence at Wyoming, then New Troy, was more quiet and every way agreeable. The newly formed class was by me organized into a church; the old, weather-beaten house of worship, long unoccupied, was remodeled and improved, and filled at the morning and evening services by attentive audiences. My charge included also Forty Fort and what is now West Pittston. Among the historic and honored families whose descendants then lived in that region, are those of Myers, Jenkins, Denison, Swetland, Lee, Shoemaker, Wadhams, Petebone

and to these I will add my well known friend, the Rev. Dr. Nelson. The delightful associations of those days were short. The constituted authorities of the church, thinking my services were more needed in another and larger place, removed me at the expiration of one year, and much to the regret of my family. Once only since those times have I visited that region, the same, but greatly changed.

The two chapters of the volume, the reading of which occasions this communication, and which most interested me, are those that contained the narratives of the original Myers family and of Frances Slocum, your great aunt, the long lost captive, borne away by the Delawares. Well did I know her brother Joseph, your grandfather, as also his manly sons and womanly daughters, than whom none were more useful or respected. I clearly call to mind in outlines the thrilling narratives of the visits made by your grandfather and two of his daughters to the forest home of the lost and found one, thrillingly interesting to me because of the character and nearness of the parties. I now see in imagination the Indian-like portrait of your great aunt as it forty years ago hung on the west wall of the parlor of the homestead. After this second reading I am induced to think that the historic name of that heroine of the valley, Martha Bennet, is retained in your family and borne by your sister, Mrs. Phelps. [Mr. Hawley is in error here as to the relationship. The Ziba Bennett family of to-day is not the same as the Bennet family of Revolutionary days. The gentleman to whom this letter is addressed comes from pioneer stock on his mother's side only.—ED.] As the aged and good woman died so late as 1853, I am almost sure that I had the pleasure of her acquaintance and visited her home. But I am trespassing. My apology is the pleasant reminiscences evoked from the dim past, and also that I have retained these many years, with other papers and letters, one written to me by the Hon. Charles Miner, which I send to you for preservation. It is a response to an invitation that he speak at a Sunday school anniversary, when your honored father was the superintendent, and your mother and aunts were actively engaged as teachers in the school. I recall the platform built over the chancel, the baskets of "goodies" under the platform awaiting distribution to the scholars. Yourself and Martha were then among the juveniles. Not being able to render the desired services, Mr. Miner responded in the words of the beautifully written letter I herewith send to you as a part of this communication. The following is the letter retained as a keepsake these thirty-nine years.

"RETREAT, June 25, 1847.—REV. B. HAWLEY: Rev. and Dear Sir: The first impulse of my heart was to say "yes" to your flattering invitation, but sober second thought admonishes me that a deaf man cannot be either a pleasing or an effective speaker, the ear being so necessary to the proper modulation of the voice. It would give me unaffected pleasure to do what would be agreeable to yourself, or to your society, which I so highly regard. I am sure that you will agree with me that true wisdom indicates to one of my age, deafness and imperfect health, to eschew, however attractive, the scenes of public excitement, and with cheerful resignation to cultivate those simple pleasures which my books, the cottage grounds and our domestic circle can afford. Very respectfully your friend,

CHARLES MINER."

With pleasant recollections of the long past, and with kind regards to all who recall me, I am very truly yours,

BOSTWICK HAWLEY.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., Sept. 15, 1886.

A Historic Apple Tree.  
[Bethlehem Times.]

Last week F. H. Huth, while on a trip to the West, stopped with relatives living in Gnadenhuetten, Tuscarawas County, O., an old Moravian settlement. Among other places of interest visited was the old burying ground where, among other trees, stands an apple tree which was planted in 1774 by Christian Indians. This tree was planted eight years before the massacre of ninety-six Christian Indians at Gnadenhuetten, on the Tuscarawas River, by a band of white settlers, which occurred on March 8, 1782. The apple tree, still in good bearing condition, remains a living monument in memory of those Christian Indians whose remains sleep beneath the sod once tilled by their own hands, and now shaded by the trees which were planted by them over a hundred years ago. The tree remains also as a sad reminder of the treachery of those white settlers who committed the massacre.

Death of an Octogenarian.

The *Hobbie Owl* says that Anthony Good, one of the pioneers of Hollenback Valley, died at his late home near Hobbie on Sunday. For several weeks he failed very rapidly, and his death was the result of the wearing out of the vital forces. Anthony Good was born in Whitehall Township, Lehigh County, Pa., March, 1805. His wife preceded him to the grave by about five and a half years. The union was blessed with twenty-nine grandchildren, seventeen of whom are living.

## FRANCES SLOCUM'S RELICS.

**A Tragic Story Recalled by the Placing on Exhibition of a Number of Articles Once Belonging to the Lost Sister of Wyoming.**

The RECORD recently reprinted from a Western paper an item to the effect that some relics once belonging to Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister, whose romantic history is known the world over, had recently been found in Wabash County, Indiana. The item was so brief and unsatisfactory that inquiries were sent to the locality mentioned, from which it is learned that while the facts were somewhat distorted there was much of truth in the published reports.

Most of the articles referred to are owned by Gabriel Godfroy, of Peru, Ind., who married a grand-daughter of Frances Slocum, and by whom they were entrusted to the Grand Army of the Republic for their Loan Art Exhibition held August 9, in Wabash, Ind., and in whose elaborate catalogue (kindly sent us by the editor of the *Wabash Courier*), they are duly enumerated.

For the benefit of such of our younger readers as are not familiar with the narrative, a brief sketch of Frances Slocum will be interesting, before passing to the correspondence: A few months after the massacre of Wyoming her father's family was among the fugitives who ventured back into the Wyoming Valley, which had been desolated with fire and tomahawk. On November 2, 1778, a band of Delaware Indians stole Frances Slocum, then a five-year-old child, as also two other children, and hurried away from the settlement. The next month the father of Frances and his aged father-in-law, William Tripp, were cruelly killed and scalped. No tidings came of little Frances for 59 years, when by a most remarkable chain of circumstances it was discovered that she was living at Logansport, Indiana, with the Miami Indians, where she was found by her brothers and sisters in 1837. The interview was a most touching one, the identification was complete, and every entreaty was made to have the lost sister return to her home in Wyoming Valley, but all to no purpose, she preferred to live and die among the children of the forest. Two life-size portraits of her were painted by George Winters, one of which is now in the possession of Mrs. Abi Slocum Butler, her niece, who is living in Wilkes-Barre, and the other in the possession of

George Slocum Bennett, whose great-aunt she was.

Following is the interesting letter received from Mr. George C. Bacon, editor of the *Wabash Plain Dealer*:

"WABASH, IND., Sept. 9, 1886. — EDITOR RECORD: Your inquiry and copy of the RECORD at hand, concerning the relics of Frances Slocum, the "White Captive," or "Mah-co-nes-quah," as she was known among the Indians here. In reply will say that it is incorrect to say that these relics were "unearthed," because they have been kept carefully ever since her death by the head man of the tribe, Gabriel Godfroy. that



FRANCES SLOCUM (from *Pearce's Annals*).

Besides the relics mentioned in your paper, the chief has in his possession the wardrobe of "Mah-co-nes-quah," consisting of a dress and shirt of mail, both heavily trimmed with silver ornaments, two shawls, a very fine red silk scarf, a magnificent brown broadcloth blanket ornamented with embroidery, and a

pair of scarlet flannel leggins of exquisite workmanship and ornamentation. All these are in excellent state of preservation. The article in the *Plain Dealer* I send you to-day states that the remains of Frances Slocum are buried in Miami County, which is a mistake—they lie in the tribal burying ground of her old home one mile west of "Deaf-man's village," on the banks of the Missinewa River in Wabash County, about twelve miles from this city. I had the good fortune to see Peter Bundy in this city to-day—an Indian who married one of Frances Slocum's daughters,—and still lives on the home place, and learned the above fact from him. Also that she has two daughters buried at the same place; that Frances Slocum married Deaf Man, ("She-pah-ra-nah") war chief of the Osage village, and by him had four children, "Ke-ke-na-kush-wah," who married Capt. John B. Brouillette; ("O zah wah-shing-quah" whose first husband was Tah-co-na. Afterward she married Wah-pah-pe-tah (Peter Bundy). I have no record of her sons. There are yet living many people who knew Frances Slocum, who died in March, 1847. Her oldest daughter died in the same year, as did also her husband, Capt. Brouillette; the younger wife of Bundy, died in 1877. Peter Bundy is a most excellent old Christian gentleman and has a son who is a preacher in the M. P. Church."

Geo. C. Bacon.

The catalogue referred to has among the Indian relics the "wardrobe of Frances Slocum, the white captive. Loaned by Gabriel Godfrey, Peru, Ind.: Blanket, three shawls, two ornamented shirts, pair of leggins, silver cross wort, by Frances Slocum at the time of her death," besides medals presented by Presidents Washington and Jackson to chiefs of Miami Indians.

#### TEXT BOOKS OF THE OLD ACADEMY.

One of the Pupils Writes About Them and the Code of Morals Taught Therein—Reminiscences Which Will Call Up Boyhood Days of Half a Century Ago.

EDITOR RECORD: It would be interesting to compare the advance in the curriculum of study in our schools. In the Old Academy, primary department, about 1830, we had the so-called John Rogers primer, succeeded by Webster's spelling book. The latter contained spelling and reading. Most of the articles for reading were accompanied with wood cuts of the rudest description, some of which were reproduced a few years since in *Harper's Magazine*, to show the great improvements in engraving, particularly on wood. We well remember the stories accompanying those cuts, each of which contained a moral. The first one was a picture of a small farm house,

and an apple tree in which could be seen a youngster, while at the foot of the tree was a man in the act of throwing at the boy, the boy being represented about as large as the tree, and the man also out of all proportion with his surroundings. The story was something like this: "An old man found a rude boy up one of his apple trees, stealing apples, and desired him to come down. The young sauce-box told him plainly he would not. The old man then threw turf and grass at him, which only made the youngster laugh at him, whereupon the old man replied: 'As kind words and turf do not succeed, I will try what virtue there is in stones,' which soon made the young rascal hasten down from the tree and beg the old man's pardon. Moral—When mild measures do not succeed we must use harsher ones."

The next in order, as we recall from memory, was a picture of a milkmaid with a pail upon her head, on her way to market with eggs, and the story goes, she got to reckoning what the eggs would bring in money and how much material she could buy with the same for a new dress. She becomes so engrossed with the subject that she forgets the balancing of the pail, which falls to the ground and destroys at once all her anticipations. The moral is apparent although I cannot reproduce the exact language.

Again, a fox is represented crossing a stream, his head only exposed above the water, a swarm of flies sucking his blood. A swallow offers to drive them away, which the fox objects to for the sensible reason that the present flies are already gorged and if driven away a fresh one would suck every drop of blood from his veins.

The next reading book was Murray's English Reader, in two parts, one of prose and the other poetry, made up of selections from the best English authors. This was succeeded by Murray's sequel to the English Reader, of the same general character as the first.

This reader was entitled "The English Reader, or pieces in prose and poetry from the best writers: designed to assist young persons to read with propriety and effect, improve their language and sentiments and to inculcate the most important principles of piety and virtue." The work was arranged with select sentences and paragraphs, narrative pieces, didactic pieces, argumentative pieces, descriptive pieces, pathetic pieces, dialogues, public speeches, promiscuous pieces. The extracts were from the Bible, Milton, Blair, Hume, Johnson, Aikin Addison, Gregory, Goldsmith, Horne, Dr. Young, Archbishop Fenelon, Lord Lyttleton, Cicero, &c. &c., all of a religious or moral tendency. The poetry was from Pope, Thomson, Cunningham, Young, Gray,

Cowper, Addison, Milton, and others. A boy would not be likely to discover or appreciate the beauty of the sentiment or the language, but to the in per scholars, nothing can now be found in any of our schools to compare with it.

The grammars then in use were Kirkham's and Murray's, both of which were as dry as dust to the student, the latter being filled with notes in fine print, which made it particularly obnoxious, and it is very doubtful if the principles underlying the structure of our language were ever extracted by these helps; Mitchell's Geography and Atlas, Hale's History of the United States and Blake's Philosophy.

These were the books in the English department of the upper and lower rooms. The teacher in the lower room was named Chamberlain, and he was a good and faithful teacher, too. He boarded at Morgan's tavern, on the site of E. P. Darling's residence, on River Street. He afterwards traveled through this country introducing Cobb's Spelling Book, which succeeded Webster's. He moved west and carried on a book store. Israel Dickinson, who taught in the upper school where young men were prepared for college, and who paid this place a visit last fall, said he was still living in the same town with himself. If this hasty reminiscence will be the means of calling out other of the alumni of the Old Academy it would be very pleasing to the

WRITER.

#### Meaning of Susquehanna.

The word Susquehanna having been a puzzle to etymologists from the days of Heckewelder to the present, it is worthy to note that Prof. A. L. Guss, of Washington City, has carefully analyzed the name and determined its signification to the satisfaction of himself, at least. He says it is of Tockwock origin, and signifies the Brook-stream, or the Spring-water-stream. The earliest use of it is found in the works of Captain John Smith of Pocahontas fame.

#### Sheep Raising in this Region.

The following item is taken from a Wilkes-Barre paper of 1835:

"We understand our enterprising fellow citizen, Dr. Bedford, of Abington, is beginning to direct his attention to the subject of raising sheep in this county. As soon as the Doctor makes the experiment we hope he will give the public the result of his experience."

It is a pleasure to know that Dr. Bedford still lives in Abington, honored in his later years as in early life, and in the enjoyment of health and competence. Has his experience in sheep raising been recorded?

#### An Old War Song.

In March last the *Elmira Telegram* printed a poem which was furnished to it by Corporal O'Brien of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and which was explained as follows: The song was written by Amos Siaty on the departure for the Mexican War, in 1846, of the 'Wyoming Artillerists,' under command of Captain E. L. Dana. The ode was rendered at a meeting held on the occasion in the old Methodist Church on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre, which was addressed by Dr. Thos. W. Miner.

The poem having been copied into the *Wilkes-Barre Leader*, Lieut.-Col. E. B. Beaumont, of the 4th U. S. Cavalry, addressed a note to that paper from Fort Bowie, Arizona, in which he stated that the poem was written by his father, the late Hon. Andrew Beaumont; that it was published in a Washington paper, Feb. 22, 1847, and copied from the *Annapolis Democratic Herald*. The poem was as follows:

AIR—"The Star Spangled Banner."

Oh say, did you hear the loud clarion of war  
Send its summoning blast o'er our hills and  
our valley? [spear,

And Mars, with his helmet, his buckler and  
Call our youth round "The Star Spangled  
Banner" to rally?

'Mid these stirring alarms,

See our sons rush to arms—

While the passion for glory each gallant  
heart warms: [boast,

And the sons of Wyoming shall hence be our  
Be the theme of our song and the soul of our  
toast.

Behold where the fane of religion ascends,  
Those youth clad in arms round the altar  
of freedom,

And pledge, in the presence of kindred and  
friends.

Their blood and their lives, if their country  
should need them,

Then the pæan rose high,

And the shout rent the sky.

While the patriot tear stole from each gener-  
ous eye; [boast,

And the sons of Wyoming shall e'er be our  
Be the theme of our song and the soul of our  
toast. [clare

And ne'er shall the page of our history de-  
That the youth of Wyoming are wanting in  
duty;

Beloved as companions—undaunted in war,  
And the smiles of the fair are their "booty  
and beauty."

For the same ardor fires.

The same spirit inspires,

That guided in battle their patriot sires;

And the sons of Wyoming shall long be our  
boast,

Be the theme of our song and the soul of our  
toast.

## SAM. WRIGHT.

Reminiscence of a Famous Shopkeeper of 50 Years Ago in Wilkes-Barre—A Piece of Original Poetry Advertised by Him.

MR. RECORD: You want original poetry of Wyoming. Here is a sample of 50 years ago.

What! You don't want it?

Read the prologue.

All Hail! Lovers of high flavored and well dressed Oysters (both fried and stewed) are requested to call at my old stand on the West Side of the Public Square, or at my new Oyster Establishment in the cellar of Major O. Porter's Hotel on River Street, where they will find Oysters as well as other refreshments served up at short notice. SAMUEL WRIGHT.

Who was Sam Wright?

What a question. As if everybody didn't know the only man who could fry and stew oysters. A man of portly presence and fixed shade of color, who never sold lager beer; the inventor, or discoverer of the Imperial Beverage, (a lost art) under whose ministrations Constitutional Prohibition was neither needed nor thought of.

No. I am no Rip Van Winkle; but this village like that of "Falling Waters" is much changed. What is fame or reputation if nobody remembers Sam Wright?

In a few years, perhaps, there will be people asking "Who was Tommy Robinson," whose small beer was equal to the Imperial Beverage.

Ask Dr. Ingham, Capt. Dennis or Gen. Dana, not that either can be expected to remember so far back as half a century, but the story must have been still fresh in their early youth: how one training day the courteous inventor of the "Imperial" wrote: "The compliments of Samuel Wright to Capt. H. B. Wright requesting the pleasure of his Company at his Old Stand on West Side of the Public Square," and how the tired and thirsty commander about to dismiss his company, construed the invitation in a most liberal sense and astonished the proprietor by ordering his line of march in full array to the place of entertainment.

Compare the "menu" at the "Old Stand" with that of Kennedy or of Lohmann today:

Samuel Wright, by day and by night,

Will serve up fine OYSTERS, you know.

I have them on hand, and more at command,

On the Square and at Porter's below.

If you call for a heart, or even a tart,

I'll furnish them both if you please.

Mince pies I have too, or plumb pudding in lieu,

As well as dried beef and good cheese.

Wilkes-Barre, Nov. 26, 1834.

Can you reject this?

O.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Sept. 23, 1886—  
EDITOR RECORD: I read in your paper this week asking, who is Sam Wright? I remember him well as a popular and favor-

ite proprietor of a restaurant, in one of low old buildings on the west side of Public Square, more than 50 years ago. Every body large and small, old and young knew Sam, and he was respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the Methodist Church and a devoted christian man. Many a time have I heard his sonorous voice raised in devout prayer at their meetings and I remember his fondness for joining in the singing, which as a boy amused me; as his voice was a good imitation of the Scotch bag pipe; and can imagine I hear it now ringing in my head. Sam was a character and was never *boycotted* on account of his sable color. I have a vivid recollection of getting the most delicious peach pie and soft ginger cake at Sam's saloon that any boy ever got at any other. So much for my memory of Sam Wright. S. PETTEBONE.

## A Liar of the Last Century.

The *Bloomsburg Republican* of Sept 16 has discovered in an old newspaper a letter, from which it would appear that our Pennsylvania climate and country was not very attractive to the red-coated hirelings who came over to assist in crushing the rebel patriots of the American colonies. The letter is dated January 18, 1778, and was written by a Hessian officer in the British Army. Of the general character of the country he writes:

"If the Honorable Count Penn should surrender to me the whole country, on condition that I should live here during my life, I should scarcely accept it. Among one hundred persons, not merely in Philadelphia, but also throughout the whole neighborhood, not one has a healthy color, the cause of which is the unhealthy air and bad water." This is caused, he says, "by the woods, morasses and mountains, which partly confine the air, and partly poison it, making the country unhealthy. Nothing is more common here," he continues, "than a fever once a year, then eruptions, itch, etc." This dire picture reaches a climax later on where he declares: "Nowhere have I seen so many mad people as here. . . . Frequently the people are cured, but almost all have a quiet madness, a derangement of mind which proceeds from sluggish, not active blood. One cause is the food. . . . The milk is not half so rich, the bread gives little nourishment."

In regard to climatic influences, this voracious chronicler writes. "The thunder storms in summer and the damp reeking air in spring and autumn are unendurable. In summer mists fall and wet everything, and then in the afternoon there is a thunder storm. In winter when the trees are frosted in the morning, it rains in the afternoon."

It is on the subject of snakes, however, that this writer's descriptive ability shines with the clearest luster. He prefaces his story with the mild statement that "There is no scarcity of snakes. The great black snake has been found near the Schnylkill lately, quite near our camp. A countryman cutting wood was chased by one recently. . . . There is nothing, however, more terrible than the big rattle snake, which is from twelve to sixteen feet long and kills by a glance. A countryman in my quarters lost a relative in this way some years ago. He had gone hunting, and seeing a bear stand still, aimed at and shot it; scarcely had he reached the bear, when he was obliged to stand motionless, remained thus awhile, fell and died. All this was caused by a rattle-snake, which was perched in a high tree."

#### Centennial of Luzerne County.

These days in which we live are prolific with centennial observances, but it would be churlish to say that there are too many of them. They serve a good purpose and though—in the absence of circus and mount-bank features—comparatively few people attend the gatherings, yet the interest in them is great and there will be thousands of people who will read with eager enjoyment the reports in the local papers of Saturday's observance, and when the detailed proceedings are published—as they will be—by the Historical Society the volume will be stored away as a valuable contribution to our fund of local history. Most people want to take their dose of historical research ad libitum, whenever, however, and wherever wanted—without expending the energy necessary upon attendance at a public meeting. Very much on the principle that some people nowadays have a telephone wire running to the pulpit of their favorite preacher, and thus hear his sermons without having to go to church.

But seriously, an event such as was celebrated on Saturday is no mean one and there are brought together a vast deal of historical data that might otherwise be lost. It is not very electrifying work for the man of antiquarian tastes to rummage among the "dead and useless past," and he needs some incentive like a centennial celebration to drive him to its performance. Probably nearly every one of the papers was written under just such pressure—an appointment to write on a certain topic—a lack of time in which to do it and consequently a rush in the few remaining hours to complete the task assigned. But when done the work remains,—it may be of great value to coming generations, it may be of very little or no value.

What mighty changes have come over this county in the brief space of a century! Made up originally of the territory now

composed in Luzerne, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Bradford and Wyoming Counties, it contained in 1786 about 2,300 taxables—perhaps 15,000 inhabitants. In one hundred years this number has swollen to 200 times this amount, or according to the census of 1880, 337,827 souls. Of these, present Luzerne claims almost one-half, making it one of the most densely populated, the most wealthy, the most thriving communities in the United States.

No name more worthy than that of the Chevalier de la Luzerne, could have been bestowed upon a county which was to become great, wealthy and populous. De la Luzerne was an officer in the French army, serving in the Seven Years' War. Abandoning arms for affairs of state, he was appointed Minister from the Court of France to the United States in 1778. He made his home in America for five years and became an idol of the people. In 1780, when our army had scarcely a dollar in its coffers and when our Government Treasury was depleted to the last degree, Luzerne raised money on his own responsibility to tide over the crisis which threatened the struggling colonists with destruction. Afterwards he was sent by his home Government to the Court of St. James, and in 1789, when the Federal Government was organized, Jefferson, then Secretary of the State, by order of President Washington addressed a letter to the Chevalier de la Luzerne, acknowledging his pre-eminent services and the appreciation of them by the American people. The naming of a county in Pennsylvania in his honor elicited from him a letter breathing a spirit of love for the Nation, whose unpromising fortunes he had espoused in the hour of adversity and which he had lived to see crowned with victory. We do well, even a hundred later, to reverence his memory, and the memory of all the brave pioneers in the work of laying the foundations of this Republic and of this county. If we of to-day build as well as they what fancy can picture nation and county a century hence!

The poems of "Stella of Lackawanna," (Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Watres, of Scranton, deceased), are in the hands of a large publishing house in Boston, and will be issued in book form in the course of two or three months. The volume will be embellished with a splendid steel portrait of the gifted authoress, and the work will without doubt command a large sale. State Senator L. A. Watres is a son of the lamented dead, and Dr. H. Hollister, the veteran historian of Lackawanna County, is a brother.

In 1815 where Scranton proper now stands was a wilderness.



**LUZERNE COUNTY POSTOFFICES.**

One Hundred and Four of them—Townships in which Located—A List that is Useful for Reference.

Probably not everybody is aware that Luzerne County has 104 postoffices, yet such is the fact. Many of the names will be new to the general reader and not one person in a hundred can tell offhand in what part of the county the several offices are located.

In a few instances a borough has a different postoffice name. Laurel Run Borough's postoffice is O iver's Mills. The postoffice in Pleasant Valley Borough could not be so named as there was already a Pleasant Valley in Bucks County. Consequently Pleasant Valley's postoffice is Avoca (recently called Marr). There is a Pleasant Hill in Ross Township but it could not be so called as there is such an office in Lawrence County. It is therefore named Sweet Valley.

POST OFFICE.	TOWNSHIP.
Alden	Newport
*Ashley	Hanover
Aakam	Hanover
Avoca	Marcy
Beach Haven	Salem
Bear Creek	Bear Creek
Bellend	Salem
Black Ridge	Sugarloaf
Bloomingdale	Ross
Briggsville	Nescopeck
Cambria	Huntington
Carverton	Kingston
Cease's Mills	Jackson
Conyngnam	Sugarloaf
Dallas	Dallas
Dorrance	Dorrance
*Driftor	Hazle
Dram's	Butler
Duryea	Marcy
Ebervale	Hazle
Eckley	Foster
Exeter	Exeter
Fades Creek	Lake
Fairmount Springs	Fairmount
Forty Fort	Kingston
*Freeland	Foster
Glen Summit	Wright
Gowen	Black Creek
Grand Tunnel	Plymouth
Gregory	Hunlock
Harling	Exeter
Harleigh	Hazle
Harveyville	Huntington
Hazle Brook	Foster
*Hazelton	Hazle
Hobbie	Hollenback
Hunlock Creek	Hunlock
Huntington Mills	Huntington
Huntsville	Jackson
Islerman	Jenkins
Jonesville	Hazle
Juddo	Hazle
*Kingston	Kingston
Ketcham	Franklin
Kunkle	Dallas
Kytle	Fairmount
Lake, (at Harvey's Lake)	Lehman
Lackville, (formerly Blindtown),	Plymouth

POST OFFICE.	TOWNSHIP.
Lehman	Lehman
Loyalville	Lake
Luzerne, (formerly Mill Hollow,)	Kingston
Milneville	Hazle
Miner's Mills	Plains
Moosehead	Denison
Mountain Grove	Black Creek
Mountain Top	Wright
Muhlenburg	Union
*Nanticoke	Hanover
Nescopeck	Nescopeck
New Columbus	Huntington
Oliver's Mills, (Laurel Run Borough),	.....
Orange	Wilkes-Barre
Outlet	Franklin
Peel's	Lake
*Parsons	Plains
Peely, (Warrior Run),	Hanover
Pike's Creek	Lehman
*Pittston	Pittston
*Plains	Plains
Plainsville, (L. V. RR. Station),	Plains
*Plymouth	Plymouth
Port Blanchard	Jenkins
Red Rock	Fairmount
Register	Huntington
Reyburn	Union
Rittenhouse	Fairmount
Roaring Brook	Hunlock
Rock Glen	Black Creek
Ruggles	Lake
Sandy Run	Foster
*Shickshinny	Salem and Union
Silkworth	Lehman
Slocum	Slocum
Stockton	Hazle
St. John's	Butler
Stoddartsville	Buck
Sugarloaf	Butler
Sugar Notch	Sugar Notch
Sweet Valley	Ross
Seybertsville	Sugarloaf
Town Hill	Huntington
Town Line	Union
Trucksville	Kingston
Upper Lehigh	Foster
Wanamie	Newport
Wapwallopen	Conyngnam
Waterton	Huntington
West Nanticoke	Plymouth
*Wilkes-Barre	Wilkes-Barre
White Haven	Foster
Wyoming	Kingston
Yates, (Yatesville),	Jenkins
Zehner	Foster

Offices with an asterisk, (\*), are money-order offices.

**A Large Eagle Shot.**  
[Pittston Gazette.]

A splendid specimen of the bald eagle was shot yesterday in the vicinity of Ransom by Fred Hoffner, in company with Frank and Henry G. Weeks, who were out for a day's tramp through the country. The eagle dropped with a broken wing and a bullet through its body. The bird measured six feet and eight inches across the wings and three feet from beak to tail.

In 1810 the Luzerne County Agricultural Society was first organized.

#### The Supposed Meteorite.

Appended is the extracted description of a supposed meteorite in the collection of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, from a paper recently read before the Society by Dr. Charles F. Ingham.

This mass of mineral was left in charge of this society by Mr. J. Crocket, of Ross Township, Luzerne County, where he obtained it in ploughing on his farm in a locality which seemed to be that on which a luminous body or meteorite had fallen. He is therefore of the belief that this is that body. My investigations lead me to an opposite opinion, for the following reasons:

First, That the external surface does not correspond with the descriptions universally given of meteorites. M. Daubree, member of the Institute of Mines and Inspector General of the mines of France, in an article on the synthetic experiments relative to meteorites, says, "What is first remarked on examining meteoric stones, is a black crust which covers the whole surface; this crust is in general of a dull appearance, but in some aluminous and particularly fusible meteorites it is of a glittering aspect, so as to resemble a varnish. Its thickness is less than one millimetre (one-twenty-fifth of an inch), and it is plainly owing to a superficial fusion which the stone has undergone for a short time, being the result of incandescence produced by friction through the atmosphere." And this we find in a specimen belonging to this society while the Ross Township stone is totally without it and has no other indication of its having been heated.

Secondly, and of great import, I find the specific gravity of the Ross Township specimen only 2.818, whereas the specific gravity of meteorites, as reported, ranges from 3.200 to 7.020, an average being 5.24. The Polish specimen has a gravity of 3.663, and it is strongly attractable by the magnet; yet it has no magnetic power, and hence no polarity inherent. The Ross Township specimen gives no evidence whatever of magnetic influence, although my tests were applied to an external flake, which should have had the greatest energy of the whole mass. And this is in accord with my analysis of the mineral by which I get but the faintest evidence of the presence of iron, and not a trace of nickel. I found the mass made up of silica, alumina, lime, magnesia, potassa and, as above stated, a faint trace of iron, as also some bismuth.

In these elements, taken in connection with the specific gravity 2.863, we have a close approximation to the mineral Anorthite, its specific gravity being 2.730. Anorthite belongs to the section of feldspathic compounds. Now, if the mass in question is not a meteorite, and did not

reach its place of rest by a traverse through the air, the question follows, where did it come from? The surface-rocks of Luzerne County are not of the feldspathic class, nor do we find them in force until we approach the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. This would seem to be making out a very remote point of origin for the specimen, involving a very long overland journey to reach its location in the mountains of Pennsylvania. But that the great proportion of the drift found throughout this county came from equally remote sources we have the strongest lithologic evidence; for among the stones of the gravel we find a very large amount of the Potsdam sandstone, this stone being at the base of the lower silurian formation, and being the beginning of the paleozoic series, or those bearing the fossil evidence of life on earth. The nearest point to us, northward, at which this sandstone has a surface spread, is in St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, the northeast corner of the State of New York; where, in the Adirondack mountains, it appears prominently. I therefore assign to the force that brought the Potsdam sandstone to us, the no more difficult task, that of having brought the specimen to Ross Township.

#### An Historic Log Chapel.

The *Media American* recently contained an article by Philip Lennon on "The Old Log Chapel at Neshaming in Bucks County." It was the pioneer seminary for aspirants to the Presbyterian ministry a century and a half ago. It was six miles south of Doylestown, twenty miles out of Philadelphia. When in America in 1739 the celebrated evangelist, Whitfield, preached here to 3000 people. The deed for the ground, dated 1728, was given by James Logar, to his cousin, Rev. William Tennent, an Irish emigrant, who shortly after his arrival renounced his allegiance to the Church of England and joined the Philadelphia Presbytery. The gift consisted of fifty acres of land and the part of it on which the college stood is said to have been the Indian burying ground. The log college, 20 feet by 30 feet square, was for years the only institute south of New England where young men could be prepared for the ministry.

The Log College flourished under Mr. Tennent for twenty years, when its place was eminently supplied by kindred institutions thereabouts. From its walls came many noted preachers of Scotch-Irish descent. Four of his own sons were ministers, one of whom, Gilbert Tennant, preached eloquent sermons to stir up the people during the French and Indian War. A cartload of these sermons were very opportunely discovered in an old lumber room of Dr. Franklin's when the American patriots were

hunting for paper to make cartridges after the British evacuated Philadelphia, in June 1778. The sermons were utilized as cases for cartridges, and told effectively afterwards on the retreating British in the battle of Monmouth.

The Rev. Charles Beatty, an Irish Presbyterian, who was chaplain with Dr. Franklin in the army on the Lehigh, in 1756, was educated here. He was an emigrant with a good classical education, but compelled to make a living by peddling. Halting one day at Log College, he accosted the professor familiarly in classical Latin. After some conversation in which the peddler evidenced religious zeal, Mr. Tennent said, "Go and sell the contents of your pack and return immediately and study with me. It will be a sin to continue a peddler, when you can be so much more useful in another profession." Beatty became an eminent preacher. He was present at the coronation of George III.

While chaplain with Dr. Franklin's army on the Lehigh, during the French and Indian War, an incident is related worthy of record. The soldiers were allowed a gill of rum every day in addition to their regular stipulation, one-half being dealt out in the morning and the other in the evening. On Dr. Beatty's complaining to Dr. Franklin, of the soldiers not being punctual in attending service, the latter suggested, "It is, perhaps, below the dignity of your profession to act as a steward of the rum, but if you were to distribute it out only just after prayers, you would have them all about you." Mr. Beatty profited by the advice and in future had no reason to complain of non-attendance. A few hands measured out the liquor after prayers regularly. He died at Barbadoes, whither he had gone to collect money for the New Jersey College in 1771.

Scarcely a vestige of those old college times now remains about there—save a fire crane, said to have been used by Mr. Tennent in his own house, and a part of the old wall, a foot and a half thick, in the end of a kitchen attached to an old house there. Some old coins bearing the date 1710 were discovered there years ago. Not a vestige remains of the temple whose roof echoed often the loud, earnest preachings of truth.

#### Another Sullivan Expedition Journal.

We have received from Mr. Justin Winsor, corresponding secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society, a valuable pamphlet of 45 pages, of which the following is the title page inscription:

Sullivan's Expedition Against the Indians of New York, 1779. A Letter from Andrew McFarland Davis to Justin Winsor, corresponding secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society. With the Journal of William

McKendry. Cambridge: John Wilson and Son. 1886. Pp. 45.

Mr. Davis' letter gives a list of 32 published and unpublished diaries, journals or narratives of the Sullivan expedition, though the one in the present pamphlet has never before been published. It is stated that the journal of George Grant has been printed in the *Wyoming* (Wilkes-Barre) *Republican*. Adam Hubley's journal was published in the appendix to Miner's "History of Wyoming." The diary of John Jenkins, a lieutenant in Capt. Spalding's Independent Wyoming Company, and guide to the expedition, is in the possession of Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming.

The writer of this particular journal, William McKendry, was a lieutenant in a Massachusetts regiment in active service during the years 1777-1780. The original journal is now owned by Mr. William Henry McKendry, of Ponkapoag, Mass., of the Harvard class of 1882.

The writer was at Cherry Valley at the time of the massacre. He was with Clinton's column in Sullivan's expedition. He contributes some valuable and interesting information, while many of the brief notes of engagements with the Indians are as fascinating as fiction. Here is a thrilling entry dated November 11, made at Cherry Valley: "Alarm at 11 o'clock. Mr. Hammell coming from the Beaver Dam was fired upon by ye Indians and was wounded. Being on horse he escaped to the fort half a mile distant, and alarmed Col. Alden. Immediately came on 442 Indians from the Five Nations, 200 Tories, under command of one Col. Butler and Capt. Brant; attacked headquarters. Killed Col. Alden and 14 men. Took Col. Stacy prisoner, also Lieut. Col. Holden and 14 men. Killed of ye inhabitants, 30 persons; took 34 inhabitants prisoners. Burnt 20 houses, 25 barns, 2 mills. N. B. A rainy day. Nov. 12. Sent out and fetched in Col. Alden and buried him under arms with firing three vollies over his grave. Brant came with 100 Indians to attack fort ye second time, but receiving two or three shots from the cannon gave back. Left ye fort at 3 pm. and brought in a No. of dead bodies. Nov. 13. Brought in Hugh Mitchell's wife and four children, all scalpt, with a No. of other dead bodies."

The entries relative to the passing of the victorious army through Wyoming on its return, in October, 1779, is interesting, but not given with as much detail as could be desired.

On Oct. 4 the army, after a short but thorough campaign of 36 days had left Fort Sullivan (Tioga) on its return to Easton, the soldiers taking the precaution to destroy the fort or stockade before evacuating it. The entries then go on as follows:

Oct. 4th. This morning the Army Marchd. and left Fort Sullivan at 9 O Clock for Wyoming—came over scrub land this day—Passed. a defile on the brink of the river where a narrow path on the steep side of a large mountain about 200 feet perpendicular which made it very dangerous to pass; and was a solid rock three horses with their loads fell off and dashed to pieces in the River—Proceeded. on and encampd on the point of the river—Some rain this day and very hard this night—Came 25 miles this day—Part of the troops came in the boats.

October 5th. This morning 11 O Clock the troops all embarkd on board the boats, excepting a No. to drive the Cattle, and take down the pack-horses Proceeded down the river and encampd 7 miles below Wylucee the boats came on very well, this day passed some bad rapids—This river on the sides is very mountany and opposite on the other side some small flats—Some of these mountains 300 feet perpendicular—Came 21 miles this day.

October 6th. This morning the troops movd on at 6 O Clock proceeded down this river and encampd west side of the same on a piece of land that was cleared by girdling the trees and was coverd with English grass—Came 30 Miles.

October 7th. This morning the Army movd on and arrivd at Wyoming 12.0' Clock A. M. and encampd on a pine plain—the troops drew half a pint of Whiskey each—This river is very mountany, on the sides of it and opposite these mountains on the other side, some small flats which are very rich and good land, those flats from Tioga to Wyoming have all been improvd and clear'd by girdling, but the houses are all burnt by the Indians—This Wyoming is pleasantly situated on both sides of the river and the land near the same very good—Came 15 miles, making in the whole 91 miles from Tioga to this place by water.

October 10th (Sunday) The Army marchd and left the ground 3.0'clock P. M. for Easton—Came over a large mountain very rocky and some muddy sloughs Arrivd. at Bullocks-Farm at a long meadow 11.0'clock at night where the troops encampd—Came 7 miles this day.

October 15th. Arrivd at Easton 1.0'clock P. M.

In 1786 the great "Pumpkin Flood" inundated the entire Valley and did much damage.

In 1820 the population of the county was 20,027.

In 1820 the coal trade increased rapidly, and the Baltimore Coal Company was organized.

In 1829 the first county bank, the "Wyoming Bank," at Wilkes-Barre, commenced business.

#### WHEN BERWICK WAS FOUNDED.

Evidence Tending to Show That the Recent Centennial Was a Year Ahead of Time.

EDITOR RECORD: There having been exhibited lately some diversity of opinion as to the time of the settlement of the Town of Berwick, I have concluded to add to the confusion already existing upon the subject, by giving what was said about it upwards of eighty years ago.

Thomas Cooper, one of the Pennsylvania Commissioners, under the act of 1799, known as the "Compromising Law," in the performance of his duties wrote under date:

"NORTHUMBERLAND, Jan. 18, 1803.—A part of the Town of Berwick stands on a tract of land taken up under Pennsylvania by Evan Owen, who laid out that town, and who, I understand, is now at Lancaster making his complaints on this subject, and who, to my knowledge, most egregiously exaggerates the importance of the case as will soon be perceived. A part of this tract and of the town of Berwick is included in the Town of Salem. General Steele, Mr. Wilson and myself directed Mr. Sambourne, the surveyor, to run out the lines of interference. They can give evidence respecting it. Mr. Sambourne's return to me makes the business quite insignificant, but whether more or less, I had to decide on principles that have no relation to the *quantum* of the dispute. I held this case under advisement on the following ground: It appeared in evidence before me, by the voluntary deposition of Evan Owen himself, that he made his commencement of settlement on the tract of land whereon the Town of Berwick now stands, on the 10th day of May, 1787, the Confirming Law having passed on the 27th day of March preceding. It appeared to me that this Confirming Law was public and legal notice to him of an opposite and older title, then recognized by the Legislature, and that he settled at his peril. He took up the land and settled it, knowing of a precedent title.

THOMAS COOPER."

This letter will be found recorded at large in the office of the Secretary of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, in volume I, relating to Wyoming lands, p. 152. It would seem to be satisfactory evidence of the time when the Town of Berwick was laid out.

STREUBEN JENKINS.

Wyoming, Sept. 17, 1886.

In 1714 a fatal form of typhus fever raged along the Susquehanna. Whole families fell victims to it.

In 1773 the first marriage in Wilkes-Barre (white) occurred this year in the Denison family, and the first birth followed it.

In 1812 the first church erected and completed in the Public Square, Wilkes-Barre.

#### The Old Wilkes-Barre Academy.

EDITOR RECORD: An article in the RECORD recently headed "Text-Books of the Old Academy" was peculiarly interesting to me, a student in Wilkes-Barre fifty years ago. It brought to my mind vividly reminiscences of the olden time, the quaint buildings, the early pedagogues, the somewhat crude books and methods of teaching, and the mischievous scholars, some of whom have since risen to eminence in church and State.

The writer of the article referred to went back to a period less than fifty years ago, as I saw no reference to the old "yellow Academy," which to me and doubtless to others who remember it, is attended with more ancient, and therefore hallowed, associations. At the time I entered it, the old building was in a dilapidated condition through extreme age and bad usage by the scholars—one of whom had made two or three unsuccessful attempts to end its existence by conflagration. The structure was one of four public buildings which then occupied the square, viz: The court house, "fire-proof" (in which the county offices were located) the M. E. Church and the academy. Running through the square at right angles, were Main and Market Streets; on the latter a long gable-end building, with roof supported by pillars, constituted the public market house. All these buildings were of a style of architecture peculiar to the Pennsylvania Dutch towns of that period, and beyond the power of any imagination to describe, though I can see them now clearly in my mind's eye. The schools taught in the academy were excellent for the time, and as I have said, many eminent men were fully prepared for college within its uncouth walls. The names of the teachers, I cannot recall, except the principal, Deacon Sylvester Dana, a graduate of Yale, and a most excellent preceptor. With great kindness of heart and much patience, he was yet very thorough and severe. The discipline of his school was maintained at all hazards, and woe to the scholar who disputed his authority. His mode of punishment was the rawhide, a plentiful supply of which was always kept at Mr. Anheiser's store on the west side of the square. I remember on one occasion going to the store for one which Mr. Dana used to chastise the late Judge Waller. Among the names of those who were attending the academy are J. Butler Conynghan, Frank Butler, Charles Collins, C. P. Waller, George G. Waller, Sam McCarragher, S. H. Lynch, Tom Smith, Bob Wright, Ed Butler, Charley Chapman, W. L. Conynghan and Jonathan Bulkeley. The latter had an experience at one time with the deacon's rawhide which resulted in the indictment of the teacher. A number of the scholars were summoned as witnesses

before the Grand Jury, and I well remember how awestricken we were as one by one we appeared in the august presence of the jurymen to give our testimony. But the case was settled before it came to trial, and Jonathan ceased to be a member of the school.

According to my recollection the old building was demolished in 1830, and for two or three years the school was kept in a part of the old Morgan Hotel, on River Street. A brick building of more modern pretensions and appointments was erected on the old site, and that gave place with the other buildings on the square to the present court house.

C. E. L.

Carbondale, Oct. 15, 1886.

#### The Old Hollenback House.

Apropos of the disappearance of the old Hollenback house on Franklin and Northton Streets, it was thought that a few facts relative to the building and history of the old landmark would be interesting. Thorough inquiry, however, failed to reveal the exact date or the architect or builder of it. Several gentlemen in town who are familiar with local history, agreed that the date of construction was about 1848. At the time it was built it was considered a magnificent mansion, outrivaling any other dwelling in town; and, in fact, the length of time required to tear it down this summer, and its excellent condition, vouch for the skill and conscientiousness of its builder, whoever he was. This was the last home of George M. Hollenback, who was so long identified with local interests.

The most prominent event remembered in connection with the old Hollenback house is the Centennial Tea Party of 1876. On this occasion everyone who had books, letters, or any articles whatever, of interest relating to the early history of the town or valley, were brought to the Hollenback house and they were arranged in rooms by a committee of ladies. Some very interesting, as well as ancient, relics of the long ago in this vicinity were there on exhibition, and everyone attended the tea party, which was as great a success as the other famous one of 1770 in Boston.

The *Elmira Advertiser* has been publishing a series of historical reminiscences under the title of "Letters of Uncle Jonas Lawrence." The author is John L. Sexton, Esq., of Blossburg, Tioga Co., Pa., who deals with many of the towns and villages on both sides the line between New York and Pennsylvania. The letters have just been issued in book form by the *Advertiser*.

In 1811 the first nail factory was erected in Wilkes-Barre.

**A Former Wilkes-Barre Pastor in Town.**

A RECORD man Wednesday had a conversation at the Wyoming Valley Hotel with an agreeable and well-preserved gentleman who some 40 years ago lived in Wilkes-Barre for a few months. His name is Rev. Dr. Charles D. Cooper, and he is rector of the Holy Apostles' Church, Philadelphia. Dr. Cooper has some very interesting reminiscences of Wilkes-Barre, he having spent part of the year 1847 as rector of St. Stephen's. He was preceded by Rev. Dr. Claxton, of holy memory, and succeeded by the late lamented and beloved Rev. George D. Miles. Dr. Cooper gives a very graphic description of Wilkes-Barre, as it was 40 years ago, though he sees now in the bustling city of 35,000 people scarcely a trace of the little tumble-down village which Wilkes-Barre was at that time. He and his good wife came here in 1847 by stage, leaving Philadelphia at 3 am., and by easy relays reaching here on the third day. Dr. Cooper was the guest for a time of the late Judge Conyngham's family and he formed many delightful acquaintances, including the elder Judge Woodward's family. While he was most favorably impressed with the people he was not so similarly impressed with the town. It seemed inaccessible to railroads, had no perceptible resources and he saw nothing in the future to encourage a young man and a stranger to cast his lot here. Accordingly he concluded to seek a wider and more promising field and he went to Philadelphia (by stage to Pottsville and thence by rail to the Quaker City.) Dr. Cooper occupies a prominent position in the diocese of Pennsylvania. He is impressed not only by the general progress in Wilkes-Barre but by the remarkable growth of his old parish, he considering St. Stephen's one of the strongest parishes in the diocese of Central Pennsylvania. He never anticipated a time when as now, the rector of St. Stephen's would have an outlying field requiring four assistants. The doctor regrets the absence of Rev. Henry L. Jones at General Convention. He is accompanied by Mrs. Cooper and a lady friend. Dr. Cooper's coming was very quiet but now that his whereabouts have been made known by the RECORD he will doubtless be called upon this morning by some of the gentlemen whose fathers he knew and who were only boys in 1847. — *W.-B. Record, Oct. 21.*

Rev. U. W. Condit is the author of a history of Easton, which is being printed in parts at 50 cents each. Part 5 is devoted mainly to the Lutheran Church history of the town. A biography of Hon. George Taylor is also given. The illustrations are: St. Paul's Church, St. Peter's Church, the "Pot Rock and Eddy" and a profile of George Taylor.

**Historical Publications.**

Centenary Memorial of the Erection of the County of Dauphin and the Founding of the City of Harrisburg, Edited by William H. Egle, M. D., 8 vo., p. 367.

This is the title of a volume giving a complete record of the celebration last year, prepared under the auspices of the Dauphin County Historical Society. The volume contains a full account not only of the preliminary meetings and addresses, but complete reports of the imposing ceremonies of that celebration, and of the antiquarian exhibition, which was so successful a feature of the event. The edition is limited to 400 copies at \$2 each. The proceeds of the sale of the book are to go to a fund for the establishment of a public library.

A Philadelphia firm are making arrangements for the publication of a history of Susquehanna County. We hope it is not one of the bogus histories with which so many counties have been cured and which charge an exorbitant price and fail to give satisfaction after all. Miss Blackman's history of the county is not yet out of print and should be patronized before the people throw their money into the coffers of an outside party. We believe in protection to home industry to the fullest extent. It is announced in the *Montrose Independent* that "a number of leading citizens of the county will assist in the preparation," and the chapter on the medical profession will be written by Dr. Calvin C. Hawley, of Montrose.

We learn from the *Doylestown Intelligencer* that Bucks is to have its history prepared by an Ohio firm. If their experience is anything like that in Luzerne the Bucks County people will wish they had let "patent" histories alone.

The *Magazine of American History* for September is both a surprise and a delight. With the first opening of its beautiful pages one is ushered into an unique portrait gallery, and makes or renews acquaintance with a long line of brilliant public characters. A more entertaining contribution to magazine literature than Mrs. Lamb's "Illustrated Chapter of Beginnings" it would be hard to find. It is the history of an old historic institution important to the whole country, and contains just precisely the information wanted by thousands of intelligent readers in various parts of the land—it is a graphic and historical sketch never before presented so concisely and effectively.

Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries* in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* for Aug. 14 contains an article on "Pennsylvania Anti-Revolutionary Currency," "Records of Bindnagle Church," story of a good Indian of doubtful existence and an account of the Enders Monumental Association.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

NOVEMBER, 1886.

No. 3.

## JOSEPH BRANT.

**Unveiling His Monument at Brantford, Canada—New Facts in the Life of the Famous Chief—Denial that he was in the Wyoming Massacre of July 3, 1778.**

The question whether the Mohawk chief, Brant, was at the battle of Wyoming, has never yet been answered to the satisfaction of all. Authorities differ, most historians insisting that Brant was not here, others, (prominently Hon. Stenben Jenkins) claiming with equal earnestness to the contrary. As the decades have gone by the effort to relieve Brant's memory from its former odium has never for a moment been relinquished, and it is not surprising that last month when a monument was unveiled in his honor at Brantford, Ontario, it was announced authoritatively that he had no hand in the atrocities at Wyoming. The *Post-Express*, of Rochester, N. Y., under date of Oct. 14, gives an excellent historical sketch of the famous Mohawk chieftain, and we take pleasure in laying it before our readers Mr. E. S. Loop having kindly favored us with a copy of the paper referred to:

1.

BRANTFORD, Ont., Oct. 13.—Your correspondent arrived at this place yesterday and found, as he anticipated, other persons from "The States," drawn here by the same attraction, namely, the unveiling of the monument to Joseph Brant, who was once the most famous man of the Genesee country. The ceremonies began this morning and will last two days. While we are waiting for them let me give you as condensed a sketch as I can of the career of the Indian chieftain whose memory has never received justice at our prejudiced hands.

According to tradition the celebrated Mohawk war-chief Joseph Brant—whose Indian name was Thayendanege—was born in the year 1742, on the banks of the Ohio River, where his people were temporarily sojourning. The home of his family was at the Canajoharie Castle, in the Mohawk Valley, and his mother returned there while Joseph was quite young. There are varying statements regarding his father and the origin of his name; but Stone produces considerable evidence in his "Life of Brant," in relation to the ancestry of his subject, and very justly remarks that "from such a body of testi-

mony, direct and circumstantial, it is hazardous but very little to assert that Joseph Brant was of the noblest descent among his nation." It would appear from evidence presented that Thayendanege's father was a distinguished warrior; sometimes called Aroghyadagha and at others Nickus Brant, who became sachem of the Mohawks on the death of King Hendrick in 1755. Aroghyadagha had three sons in the English army, and his daughter, Mollie, became the Indian wife of Sir William Johnson, then British superintendent of Indian affairs in North America. It is evident that Thayendanege himself possessed some knowledge of his origin through family tradition for he distinctly declared that he "was born of Indian parents," and Marshall says, in his "Denonville Expedition," that while stopping near the present village of Victor, N. Y., about 1797, the noted Mohawk chieftain informed several persons that his grandfather guided the French army under Denonville—that destroyed the Seneca town on Boughton Hill many years before—from Irondequoit Bay to Boughton Hill. Brant also visited the locality where the Senecas ambuscaded Denonville, and pointed out the field of battle; facts then unknown to historians but long afterward confirmed by the researches of O. H. Marshall and the original accounts of Denonville and his officers.

There are no definite accounts of the early youth of Thayendanege, but from all that is known he must have been a lad of uncommon enterprise. When but 18 years of age he joined the Mohawk warriors under Sir William Johnson, and received his baptismal fire at the battle of Lake George, where the brave King Hendrick was killed. This was during the old French and Indian war of 1754-1764, which was the result of a struggle between France and England to obtain and retain possession and control of the water-sheds and water-routes of the interior of America from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico. At the time hostilities commenced, the French occupied stations on Niagara River, along French Creek and Allegany River, between Fort Presque Isle on Lake Erie and the Ohio; to the great disquietude of the Six Nations whose northern and western borders were constantly in dan-

ger of incursions by the French and their Indian allies. The Senecas constituted the great northwestern barrier of the Iroquois confederacy, and Sodus, Irondequoit, Genesee River, Braddock's Bay, Niagara, Buffalo, Presque Isle, and some minor ports were open doors requiring the constant presence of vigilant sentinels; while the site of Rochester was noted as the location of the two fords where many trails converged, and where all parties passing in this vicinity crossed the Genesee. During the continuance of the wars Indian scouts and war parties were constantly moving through the great wilderness from Lake Champlain to Niagara and the Ohio, and the trails of the Genesee were often warm with the pressure of moccasined feet.

There is reason to believe that members of Nickus Brant's family were familiar with the Genesee trails, and Stone gives the following excerpt from the private journal of Sir Wm. Johnson: "1757, Nov. 4. Canadiorha, alias Nickus Brant's son, who was in quest after DeConague as far as Oneida, came here (Fort Johnson) and said he inquired what news was stirring among the Oneidas. One of the sachems told him . . . about the French intending to stop the powder from the Six Nations—building a fort near Chennessio—etc., that it made a great noise among the nations and gave them uneasiness; wherefore, they were assembled often at Chennessio and keeping great councils among themselves how to act in this affair of last moment, etc." The name of Brant is inseparably connected with the aboriginal history of the Genesee country; and, though the records of his presence here are meagre, we know that from infancy to old age Thayendanega was often on the foot and canoe trails of the Genesee valley. Peck's history of Rochester, page 68, says: "July 1st, 1759, Gen. Prideaux, with Sir William Johnson second in command, left Oswego with an army of 2,000 men and 500 Indians on an expedition against Fort Niagara at the mouth of the Niagara River, then occupied by the French. The expedition was supplied with heavy artillery and all necessary equipments for a protracted siege, and was transported in vessels, batteaux and canoes. Coasting the south shore of Lake Ontario the first night's encampment was made at Sodus, the second at Irondequoit, and the third at Braddock's Bay—which latter place was then Prideaux Bay, in honor of the English commander who was killed a few days later during the siege." Joseph Brant, then about 17 years of age, was in the Mohawk contingent that accompanied the expedition, and is said to have acquitted himself with "distinguished bravery" during the campaign. Especial mention is made of the good be-

havior of the Indians—of whom Brant was one—in the open field engagement of July 24th, when the French reinforcements under D'Aubrey suffered a disastrous defeat. Brant received an English education through the liberality of Sir William Johnson, who employed him in public business for several years and contributed to his advancement until he became a leading man of the Mohawk nation.

At the beginning of the revolutionary war Tryon county included all of the colony of New York west and southwest of Schenectady, with the county seat at Johnstown, the residence of Sir William Johnson, who died suddenly on the 24th of June, 1774, and was succeeded in his title and estate by his son, Sir John Johnson. The official positions of superintendent of the Indian department, and major-general of militia, held by Sir William, were conferred on his son-in-law Col. Guy Johnson, and Joseph Braut was made secretary to Guy Johnson. The leading and influential men of Tryon county at that date were Sir John and Col. John Johnson, their brother-in-law Col. Daniel Claus, Col. John Butler and his son, Walter N. Butler—all bitter partisans of the king. In 1763 the Mohawks numbered 160 warriors, the Oneidas 250, Tuscaroras 140, Onondagas 150, Cayugas 200 and Senecas 1,050. For many years they had received their supplies through Sir William Johnson, gone to him for advice and counsel, and looked upon him as an oracle. At his death their affections were transferred to his family and successors. They had been taught to reverence the name of the king, believed him all powerful, and considered the officers of the crown their best friends. Hence it was but natural that they should side with the British in the contest between king and colonists. In 1775 Guy Johnson, Col. John Butler, his son Walter and other Tories, Brant and a number of Mohawks moved to Fort Stanwix, (Rome) thence to Ontario, Oswego and Montreal. Sir John Johnson subsequently followed them, and returning to Oswego raised two battalions of Tories known as Royal Greens, while Colonel Butler recruited a body of loyalists termed rangers. These troops and those Indians of the Six Nations who took up arms under the English standard, ravaged Tryon County with relentless fury during the war. Brant was commissioned a captain in the British service, and visited England in 1775. Returning to America early in 1776 he entered into the conflict with all the force of his fiery nature, and was speedily recognized as the principal war chief and master spirit of the British Indian allies. His name was associated with every affair in which Indians were engaged—often unjustly—and became



the terror of the American border. The Senecas being the most popular of the Six Nations and farthest from the theater of war, their settlements on the Genesee became a secure retreat whence many expeditions were projected. The precise date with the Mohawks settled in the Seneca country is not positively known, but it is supposed that they came directly from Canajoharie at the time Johnson, Butler and Brant moved to Fort Stanwix in 1775. They located near the Niagara River at Lewiston, and formed a considerable village along the Ridge on the present road between the old academy building and the mountain road leading up Indian hill to the Tuscarora reservation. Brant's residence was a block house that stood near "Brant's spring" on the former Isaac Cook farm. On their removal the Mohawks carried with them a bell taken from the church at Canajoharie. They built a log church at Lewiston and hung the bell on a pole suspended from the crotch of a tree. Fort Niagara was then the headquarters of the British, and there, and at Brant's Mohawk village, were concocted many of the schemes of rapine and carnage that devastated the distant borders of American civilization.

During Brant's absence in June, 1778, Col. Butler with his Tory Rangers and a detachment of Sir John Johnson's Royal Greens, marched from Fort Niagara to the Genesee castle at the confluence of the Genesee River and Canaseraga Creek, where they were joined by 500 Indians under Gi-en-gwah-toh (He-who-goes-in-the-smoke) a prominent Seneca chief. The expedition moved up the Canaseraga Valley, down the Conhocton and Chemung to Tioga Point, embarked upon the Susquehanna and landed about twenty miles above Wyoming which place was attacked and destroyed with terrible slaughter. The route pursued by Butler's expedition was the one usually followed by the British and their savage allies when making forays upon Eastern settlements, and on their return, with captives and plunder, to the Genesee and Niagara. Occasionally the northern trails were used between Canaseraga Creek and Lake Ontario, and war parties not unfrequently crossed the site of Rochester. Butler's Rangers were at Irondequoit Bay several times, and their final exit from the lower Genesee was through the present boundaries of the city. "During the revolution," said Mary Jemison, who then resided at the Genesee castle, "my house was the home of Colonel Butler and Brant, whenever they chanced to come into our neighborhood, as they passed to and from Fort Niagara, which was the seat of their military operations. Many and many a night I have pounded samp for them from sunset till sun-

rise, and furnished them with the necessary provisions and clean clothing for their journey."

## II.

The atrocities committed at Wyoming Cherry Valley and other frontier settlements, induced congress to attempt the destruction of all the towns of the Six Nations in the British interest. In 1779 Gen. Sullivan invaded their country, and on his march up the Chemung, near Elmira, encountered a large force of British and Indians, under Col. Butler and Brant, which he defeated. On the arrival of the army at the head of Conesus Lake, Gen. Sullivan sent a party, under command of Lieut. Boyd, to discover the Genesee Castle. Boyd's party passed through the lines of Butler's forces, which lay in ambush near the western side of Conesus inlet, and reached a deserted Seneca town near the Canaseraga Creek, undiscovered. On attempting to return the following morning Boyd was led into the ambush prepared for Sullivan's entire army, his party cut to pieces, and himself and Sergeant Parker made captives. Butler—knowing nothing of Boyd's presence in his rear—hearing the firing, supposed that Sullivan had outflanked him, and at once retreated. Boyd had by some means learned that Brant was a Free Mason, and soliciting an interview with the chief, made himself known as a "brother in distress." The appeal was recognized, and Brant immediately, and in the strongest language, assured Boyd that his life would be spared. Brant, however, being called on to perform some service which required a few hours' absence, left the prisoners in the charge of Col. Butler, who—upon their refusal to answer his questions—delivered them over to the Indians under Little Beard for torture. "Previous to the arrival of Sullivan's army" (at the Genesee Castle), says Peck's History of Rochester, page 71, "the Indians had sent all their women and children to Silver Lake, and upon the first appearance of the American troops on the West side of the river the enemy fled precipitately. Brant, with his warriors and the British regulars, took the Moscow trail for Buffalo creek and Niagara, while the Troy Rangers went to the Caledonia springs. From that place Walker, the noted British spy was sent to Fort Niagara with instructions to obtain a sufficient number of boats to transport the Tories and meet them at the mouth of the Genesee River. The Rangers then came down the trail to Red Creek ford at the rapids in South Rochester, where they divided into two parties, one going directly to the lake by the St. Paul street route; the other over the portage trail to Irondequoit landing, thence across the country to the mouth of the Genesee, where the boats from

Niagara found the entire party in a starving condition some days later."

Niagara remained the headquarters of the British, and at the close of the war the Mohawks were still residing on the ridge near Lewiston. At the cessation of hostilities, the Senecas offered them a tract of land in the Genesee Valley, but the Mohawks did not wish to reside within the boundaries of the United States, and eventually settled on the Grand River, in Canada, which enters Lake Erie about forty miles above the falls of Niagara. Here they received a crown grant of six miles breadth from each side of the river, beginning at Lake Erie and extending in that proportion to the head of the river, about proportion to the river, about 100 miles. This grant was doubtless intended solely for the Mohawks; but other Indians of the Six Nations, including some who had borne arms against the British and Mohawks, settled there. The great council fire of the Iroquois confederacy, which had been kept burning at Onondaga from time immemorial, was declared extinguished in 1777 by the Oneidas and Onondagas. Brant never resigned his station as principal war chief of the confederacy, and some years after the Mohawks settled in Canada: the council fire was declared rekindled and relocated at the Onondaga village on the Grand river reservation.

After the revolution Brant devoted his time principally to the interests of his people. From 1790 to 1800 he was through the lower Genesee County many times. On his return from the Niagara River in 1793, William Hencher, of Charlotte, stopped at a camping ground, on the site of ancient *Teg-a-tainasgh-que*, where the village of Cary or Oakfield now stands, and there found Brant with a white servant. The chief was well dressed after the fashion of white men; but before they parted he changed his dress entirely, putting on an Indian dress, and getting Tuscarora Charles (an Indian accompanying Hencher) to paint him like an Indian warrior; as he preferred to meet the Indians at Tonawanda like one of themselves. Enos Stone, in his reminiscences in "Phelps and Gorham's Purchase," page 425, relates a similar incident. "In an early day," he says, "I was stopping with my brother, Orange." The latter lived at "The Rock and Tree" East Avenue east of Brighton village. "Chauncey Hyde and myself were out hunting cattle. We saw a smoke rising at the Irondequoit landing and went down to it. We found that it proceeded from an Indian camp; as we approached it two Indians rose up from a couch, one of whom especially attracted our attention. His camp equipage we thought rather

extraordinary for an Indian. He was also dressed—partly as a white man, and partly as an Indian—bid us good morning with great civility, and displaying a gold watch and trimmings, observed that being wearied he had overslept. He soon announced himself as Joseph Brant, on his way from Burlington bay to Canandaigua. Having arrived in a boat he had sent Indian runners to Canandaigua for horses, and was waiting their return. He accepted an invitation and came up with us to my brother's. His familiar conversation and gentlemanly manners soon convinced us that he was not the savage we had conceived him to be, from accounts we had heard and read of him, in connection with the border wars. He quieted our apprehensions of any farther Indian troubles by assuring us that as the Senecas had sold their lands to the whites, the bargain should be carried out in good faith and the new settlements should not be molested. He manifested much interest in all that was going on in this region, and inquired where new settlements were commencing. The visit gave us great pleasure and quieted our fears. In person Joseph Brant bore a close resemblance to General Brady of the United States Army."

To return to the day and the occasion which brings me here, I can truthfully say that this is the most notable gathering of the Six Nations since the revolution. There are here from Canada and the United States several thousand delegates together with Crees, Bloods, Piegaus and Blackfeet from northwest territory under Col. McDonald and Interpreters P. Hourie and J. L. Heureux. Many distinguished Canadians and Americans are here. The procession at 12 o'clock marched through the principal streets to Victoria Square. It included the Dufferin Rifles, chiefs, warriors, Indian bands, the Brant Memorial Association, distinguished guests, Lieutenant-Governor Robinson, the Burford Cavalry, General Sir T. Middleton, president of the Memorial Association, the mayor, council, warden and county council. At the square prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Cochrane. After an address by the president of the association, the monument was unveiled by the sculptor and twelve chiefs. An address by the lieutenant-governor was followed by the singing of the Brant memorial song. The Mendelssohn Society sang the memorial ode. Addresses were made by the chief of the Six Nations, and general superintendent of Indian affairs. The president of the association finally presented the monument, which is a magnificent work of art, to the mayor of Brantford.

GEORGE H. HARRIS.

## ABORIGINAL STONE IMPLEMENTS.

Some Archeological Notes of Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys, by Dr. H. Hollister, of Scranton, whose Cabinet Embraces 20,000 Specimens.

When the whites first entered the solitude of the Wyoming and Lackawanna wilderness in search of homes in 1762 they found the occupants representing the true stone age. No iron, steel or brass utensils were here; few bone and fewer copper implements had found their way into the hands of the self-reliant and ingenious aborigines. Whether the Indian drifted along the Susquehanna in his canoe or sought the wigwam he had planned upon its banks for repose, he looked to his flint-pointed arrow and spear point, his sling-stone and his sturdy stone tomahawk for the sustenance, independence and supremacy he enjoyed. They served his purpose well. The forest swarmed with game as yet unstartled by the sound of the gun or the hound, and the streams, untroubled with the subtlety of seines, abounded with shad and trout.

Along the Upper Lackawanna four Indian villages stood one hundred and twenty-four years ago; the two principal ones were Capoose at Scranton and Asserughney at the forks of the Lackawanna with the Susquehanna at Pittston, while from Nanticoke to this point were several. On the Pittston side no evidence appears of the presence of the tribal race until Port Blanchard is reached. Here Miner describes an ancient fortress with its debris, which was probably built and used by some people prior to the occupancy of the country by the red man. Upon the Shawnee flats and on the spot where Wilkes-Barre now stands as well as upon the opposite lands, the wigwams diversified the plains with their smoke when Zinzendorf, in 1742, visited Wyoming as a missionary and as the first white man, to look upon the wild luxuriance of the fascinating valley.

The Monsey tribe inhabited the La-hr-hana Valley, while the Nanticokes, the Shawnees, the Delawares, with Teedyncung as chief, and other clans patrolled Wyoming. These tribes all belonged to the confederation of the Six Nations, formed by the union of the Mohawks, Senecas, Onondagas, Oneidas, Cayugas and the Tuscaroras, whose council fires illumined the great lakes of New York, and whose stone contrivances were of a similar character to those found here.

No section of country, however, furnished the student of archeology greater reward for his time and labor than that strip of land lying at the junction of the Lackawanna with the Susquehanna. The Indian village of Asserughney stretched from Falling Spring to the mouth of the Lackawanna, a distance of half a mile. Here, under the shadows of Campbell's Ledge, whose summit served as a lookout for miles, he fashioned his tent and lived in the deep solitude of his forest home, in plenty and safety.

Around this and other deserted villages a vast amount of stone implements have been found, after each spring's freshet, during the last half century. Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming—than whom there is no greater archaeologist within the State—whose magnificent collection of Indian relics is only surpassed by my own of over twenty thousand pieces, has gathered from the east bank of the Susquehanna every known implement of peace and every weapon of warfare once owned and used by the warriors. It is the most fruitful archaeological field within the two valleys.

The *sling stone*—which some have mistaken for sinkers—found here in great abundance, was an oval flat stone with an indentation in its side for a thong of deer sinew or twisted grass, which was thrown with great force and precision against rabbits, pheasants, squirrels, turkeys and lesser game upon all sides. Throwing this stone made no noise like the report of a rifle and the result was that all wild animals were comparatively tame, because they were unconscious of fear. The weight of these stones was from an ounce to three pounds.

The *arrow point* was the principal weapon of offense and defence. Of these a hundred or more varieties, and some of the most exquisite and rare workmanship, have been washed from the graves and found in perfect condition. The common arrow points, constructed from the flinty stones found on the banks of our rivers, were affixed to the shaft of the arrow, about one foot and a half in length, so that they could be pulled out and used again if not broken. The serrated or saw arrow point was used for making ugly wounds and lacerating blood vessels. There being no surgeons among the tribes these skillfully notched points could not be extracted and would of course produce a lingering death. The sharp war point, always built from silex, was so shaped and affixed to the arrow that the stem could be taken from the victim, leaving the point to irritate and produce inflammation and death.

A blunt point was used by the young bucks to practice with. They were fashioned blunt for obvious reasons. Long and slender points were used for shooting fish and for penetrating the vitals of moose, bear and

deer. Smaller ones were used for killing birds.

A *javelin*, or large spear point, nine inches in length and five inches in width, of red flint, was found in Capoose Mound in Scranton. It had been used and the tip was broken in some conflict. Its immense size would indicate a chief as its possessor at the time of its burial.

A long slender arrow or spear point, seven inches in length and one and a half in width was used for killing animals requiring great penetration of thrust to reach the vital parts.

For agricultural purposes the savages had a vast quantity of implements, sometimes rudely made, but always serving the required purpose. A *pick*, or grubbing hoe, twelve inches in length, with a depression for a wither handle, served the tiller of the soil in every exigency. The squaws planted the corn, hoed the tobacco and vines, and did all manual labor with patience and ease. A flat stone *hoe*, with its sides notched for the handle, could be used in the sandy soil of the river banks to great advantage. A pick ten inches in length was employed in digging and planting deeper in the ground. It was a strong tool and it had great power of resistance. Its weight was about five pounds.

One great source of amusement of the brave was the pitching of *quoits*. It not only afforded him amusement, but by long, steady habit, made him proficient in throwing the sling stone and the tomahawk.

Their four weapons of warfare were the arrow, the battle ax, the death maul and the tomahawk. A single and a double edged tomahawk with the wooden handle was fastened in the deep groove with deer skin. In the strong hands of the Indian they were a formidable instrument to defend their wigwams or to meet a foe. They fought from face to face and the victory was a matter of the strongest blows.

A *scalping* or skinning stone could have a single or a double edge. These stones, found in all Indian localities, were used for skinning purposes, and they were rubbed or ground down to an edge sharp as a knife. I have several hundred in my collection.

Two *death mauls*, constructed with singular ingenuity and labor, weighing fifteen pounds, with a deep depression entirely around them for the reception of the handle, used for killing their captives, were found at Pittston in 1857.

An Indian *mortar* or grist mill, for grinding corn into *na-samp* or *scamp*, was the primitive mode of pulverizing corn. This mortar has a capacity of about two quarts and weighs about sixty pounds. A few miles east of Scranton on Bald Mount are several holes in the projecting rock, holding two or three quarts, which were once used by the Indians for grinding corn.

*Pestles* varying in length from six inches to two feet were used for pounding corn. These were always used by females as no male deigned to do manual labor. Warfare and hunting were his only pastime. Sometimes they were made from burned clay, but generally from stone. The largest one in my collection weighs ninety pounds and was used for crushing the corn by rolling. This was found at the mouth of the Lackawanna, while a small one, a foot in length, about the size of a broom-handle was picked up at Falling Spring in 1802, by Dr. Sturdevant, of Wilkes-Barre. Some of these have an indenture upon one end by which they were affixed to a bending sapling when used, and could thus be carried upon the person of theowler. All these corn pounders, some two hundred in number, exhibit great skill, use and age.

*Amulets* made from dark seamless stones, from four to six inches in length, generally with a hole through them were worn by chieftains for personal ornament, and an emblem of authority, and to ward off disease and propitiate the gods to send the tribes good luck. The holes were made for transportation purposes.

A *stone bird*, so constructed that it could be carried by the owner, neatly carved from gray stone, was found at Throop, above Scranton. It was worn like the amulet by the virgin daughters of the chiefs as evidence of royalty, and for the purpose of charming away danger and insuring good crops of corn and tobacco. It is about four inches in length.

A string of *wampun* and *beads* were exhumed from Capoose Mound some years ago. They were manufactured from bone and small shells. In Connecticut, in 1687, a certain number of blue and black beads was made a legal tender for a penny. In 1671, this law was repealed.

A *ceremonial stone*, shaped like a hatchet, dull on its edge, about six inches long, with a large hole through the centre for the handle, was carried upon the occasion of a war dance or marriage, as we carry the American flag as a part of the ceremony.

*Stone rings* with a small hole drilled through the upper portion, weighing about an ounce, were also worn as decorations suspended by the neck or from the ear.

No article of luxury, however, was constructed with more care, cherished with holier memories, loved with more constant fervor than the *Indian's pipe*. Their calumet or pipe of peace was among their most prized and sacred articles of all stone implements of the wigwam. How long the red man had smoked his pipe along the Mohawk or the Hudson before the discovery we know not, but the white man was not cursed with the knowledge of tobacco until Sir Walter

Raleigh introduced it into England from America. A black stone pipe with representations of a wolf on one end and a bear upon the other, the bowl upheld by a warrior upon either side, and a large log underneath the whole, is in my possession with many others, and it gives the Indian's idea of astronomy.

A large number of stone relics are in my hands whose name and use I know nothing about.

The collection of Mr. Jenkins is far superior to mine in pipes and pottery.

Upon every cheek that ever bloomed and smiled beauty will fade, but these mementoes of another day and another race, neglected by many and treasured by but few, will ever remain in the hands of the archaeologist perfect in their simplicity and beautiful in their silence. H. HOLLISTER.

#### Valuable Archaeological Collection.

[Bethlehem Times.]

The Lehigh University has been presented with a valuable archaeological collection of from 1,500 to 2,000 specimens by Chas. H. Cummings, of Mauch Chunk. The collection illustrates the weapons and utensils of the Indian tribes formerly living along the Susquehanna and in the eastern part of Pennsylvania. It is particularly valuable because, instead of being a collection from all over the country, with but one or two specimens from a single locality, it is a very complete collection from a single locality, and its hows very fully the habits and local peculiarities of the Indians of this locality. The collection contains from 50 to 75 perfect specimens of stone axes, both grooved and ungrooved; a fine lot of stone mortars and pestles; net sinkers, banner stones, picks, pipes cooking pots, etc. The banner stones are curiously cut stones, which the old Indian chiefs would carry on the ends of long sticks. These stones were to the Indians what our flags are to us. Accompanying the collection are the fragments of an old mound builder's skull, found at Durand Wis. There are also water jugs found in a mound near St. Louis, Mo., on which were trees having 1,000 annular rings, which indicates that the jugs are over 1,000 years old. The collection comprises several hundred very fine arrow heads, and spear heads, and a great deal of shell wampum. Mr. Cummings purchased the collection from Dr. Stubbs, of Oxford, Pa., an enthusiast on the subject, who has made the gathering of this collection a part of his life work. The doctor was getting old and so looked about him for somebody who would buy his collection as a whole and keep it together. The dealers were very anxious to get hold of the collection and break it up in small lots, but the doctor refused all

offers until Mr. Cummings offered to buy it for Lehigh University. Prof. E. H. Williams has charge of the collection and he is very proud of Mr. Cummings' very fine donation. It will be known as the Cummings archaeological collection.

#### Mr. Wilson's Recollections.

MT. VERNON, O., Oct. 1, 1886.—EDITOR RECORD: I was much interested, among your other historical matter, in the reminiscences of Sam. Wright. Sam commenced business selling small beer and baking on River Street, in an old building on the ground where now stands the John N. Conyngham homestead. There were three old buildings there, and River Street was the business street of the town 85 years ago. The old building was said to have been washed across the river in the great pumpkin freshet and landed down on the flat near the residence of Jabez Fish (the site of W. L. Conyngham's residence) and was afterwards moved up to where it stood on River Street. There were really three houses; the first my mother lived in, the second was occupied by Sam. Wright with his cake and beer shop; and Jacob Rudolph occupied the third as a shoe shop. The old shoe shop now stands on the Conyngham farm and you can tell it to-day by a large square window in the south end, where Rudolph did his cutting.

Sam Wright was a good old man. But I may think so from the fact that he kept me well supplied with good sweet cakes for doing small errands for him, and he gave me the first oyster I ever ate. I will never forget it. It did not stay with me long. The old man was the friend of all the boys, and some of the toniest boys in the town thought it a great favor to go and sleep with the old man. The next house north was old Jacob Cist's stone house, and the next Mr. Cist's old yellow store; and there is where I saw the first Indian pot I ever saw. It was sitting on the shelf with a hole through the shelf to make it stand up, and it is now in the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. Next building was Henry Young's gunsmith shop, and the next the Arndt hotel, and then the Hollenback store on the corner of South and River. Across the street was the Richardson hotel; on up River Street was Howe & Dennis' copper and tin shop, and above George Flakes' wagon shop and tire patterns. So you see that River Street was the business street of the town many years ago. H. C. WILSON.

The *Media American* publishes in its issue of October 13, a valuable article by Philip Lennon on "The Doanes—the notorious outlaws in Bucks County," a century and more ago.

## A MASONIC FUNERAL IN 1779.

First Lodge Met in Northern Pennsylvania—Bones of the Martyrs Thrice Interred.

As an advance detachment of General Sullivan's army was approaching the Valley of Wyoming in April, 1779, it was fired on by a small band of Indians lying in ambush at a point near where General Oliver's powder mills now are on Laurel Run, and Captain Joseph Davis and Lieut. William Jones, of a Delaware regiment, were slain. The bodies received a hasty burial near the spot where they fell, for soldiers on the march have little time to waste on sympathy. On the arrival of the invading army en route to accomplish its mission of forever wiping out the power of the once mighty Six Nations in the State of New York, in the month of July following, the remains were exhumed and reburied with imposing Masonic services by brother Masons belonging to the army. So far as is known, by either record or tradition, it was on this occasion that the first lodge of Free Masons ever met on this side of the Blue Mountains, was opened in due and ancient form in Colonel Proctor's marquee, which was probably pitched somewhere on what is now the Common on the river front of our city, the object being to arrange a funeral service for the re-interment of their brethren slain on the mountain the preceding April. We have no means of knowing whether the more solemn portion of the Masonic burial service took place in the secrecy of the lodge room at that time, as it does now, or not, but the following account of the imposing ceremony on depositing the bodies in the grave is copied from the Providence, Rhode Island, *Gazette* of Sept. 18, 1779:

"WYOMING, July 31, 1779—On Tuesday last, the 28th inst., agreeable to previous determination, the bodies of our brethren, Capt. Joseph Davis and Lieut. William Jones, who were massacred by savages near this post on the 23d of April last, were re-interred. This mark of respect we thought necessary for the following reasons: it being expressive of our esteem and their not being buried in the proper grave-yard. The form of procession being fixed upon at lodge No. 19, was as follows:

1. Twenty-four Musketeers with reversed arms.
2. Two Tylers bearing their swords.
3. A band of music.
4. Two Deacons with wands.
5. Three brethren bearing the orders.
6. The Holy Bible and Book of Constitutions.
7. Two Reverend brothers.

8. The Worshipful Master, with Hon. Major General Sullivan.

9. Senior and Junior Wardens, bearing their columns.

10. The Treasurer and Secretary.

11. Past Master.

12. The brethren, two and two.

13. Gentlemen of the Army.

14. Two corps of drums muffled and fifes playing a solemn dirge.

The brethren were neatly clothed with jewels, etc., and were in numbers odd of one hundred and fifty. Just as we arrived at the ground an exceeding easy gust of rain coming up prevented the delivery of a discourse which had been prepared for the occasion by Brother William Rogers, a short and suitable prayer being by him offered up. We then committed their bodies in Masonic form to the dust. Afterwards three volleys of small arms were discharged. The Brotherhood were attended by the Pennsylvania Regiment of Infantry, commanded by Col. Hubley, as likewise by a great concourse of people, both inhabitants and soldiery. The melancholy scene was clothed with the usual decorum amongst the brethren and satisfaction to all the bystanders. A stone being prepared by our brethren Forest and Story with suitable inscription, was fixed at the head of their graves."

The first interment was on the top of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, near where Charles Parrish's sylvan residence now is. The one here spoken of was within a few feet of the corner of Market and Washington Streets, on ground now occupied by the skating rink, but they were not permitted to enjoy a final resting place even here. A marble headstone had taken the place of the rude one set by their Masonic brethren at the re-interment, so that the graves were readily recognized in after years, and when the removal of the bones of the forefathers of the hamlet were ruthlessly shoveled up by the unsympathizing stranger workmen not many years ago, and some of them removed to the new cemetery, the remains of these two victims of savage warfare were again dug up and removed to the Hollenback Cemetery, and again interred with high Masonic ceremonies conducted by old Lodge 61, with Hendrick B. Wright as worshipful master; where it is hoped they may be permitted to rest in undisturbed repose until the last trumpet shall sound and bid the dead awake and come to judgment. w. j.

[So far as we know the above newspaper extract has never been reprinted. We are informed by Dr. Hollister that he copied it from an issue of the paper mentioned, in the possession of Pulaski Carter, of Providence, Pa. The *Gazette* was published at Providence, R. I., by John Carter, probably an ancestor of Pulaski Carter.—Ed.]

#### How We Acquired Our Domain.

The Public Domain of the United States are lands in which the general Government has exclusive property, whether they be situated in the States or Territories. They are those of which Henry Clay, when he first ran for President in 1832, said "no subject which has presented itself to the present, or perhaps any preceding Congress, was of greater magnitude than that of the public lands. Long after we shall cease to be agitated by other public questions now before us the public lands will remain a subject of deep and enduring interest." Our public domain has been acquired by cessions, purchase and conquest, and, in view of its rapid absorption, and the opinions involved, it is interesting now to review its history.

The British subjects who came to this country were obliged to comply with three conditions before, as individuals, or colonies, they acquired full title to the land: First, A grant from the Crown of Great Britain; Second, Extinction from the Indian title, and Third, Possession. Of the Indian titles, it is sufficient to say that, sham philanthropy to the contrary notwithstanding, no set of people on earth were ever treated with the consideration our Indians have often received, under circumstances constantly the most exasperating, in treating with them for their lands. It has rarely occurred that they have been cheated, treacherous and deceptive though they themselves are.

By treaty of 1783, the result of the Revolutionary war, the United States was recognized as extending from the Atlantic ocean to the Mississippi River, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, comprising 830,000 square miles. Most of the land lying west of the Allegheny Mountains, viz.: 405,000 square miles, known as "Crow Lands," became the subject of a protracted struggle for ownership between the colonies, when that war broke out—owing to the indefinite grants by the British Crown. These serious differences were averted, however, about the close of the war, by all ceding their lands in dispute to the general Government. The part lying north of the River Ohio, known as the "Northwest Territory," was claimed by four colonies, each a part, some all; namely, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and Virginia. In the south the Carolinas and Georgia claimed extensive westward to the Mississippi.

In September, 1776, in order to give incentive to the soldiers, Congress resolved to donate bounty lands for military services. But the general Government had no lands to give. They were claimed exclusively by a few of the colonies, and of the others it is surprising that only one saw how she would

be impoverished by attempting to execute this resolution. To little Maryland appears to belong solely this foresight, which eventuated in the creation of the public domain. Maryland's delegates in Congress were at once directed by the home Legislature to oppose the above resolution, but they were entirely alone in their opposition, and Virginia, establishing a land office, proceeded to deal out some 3,000 claims. But Maryland persisted in her efforts; caused her delegates in 1779 to refuse to sign the Articles of Confederation then so necessary to give strength to our country's cause, and, by 1780, to meet the demands of the war, New York agreed to cede her claims in the Northwest to the general Government. Virginia's delegates, Jefferson and Madison, then signed articles ceding her extra lands, and the others soon following, the public domain came into existence, with a beginning of about two hundred and sixty million acres. So much for cessions.

When Jefferson became President he at once began efforts to purchase New Orleans of the French, regarding any foreign power in ownership of that island and city as the natural and certain enemy of the United States. Two million dollars were offered for it and declined, but, by a stretch of authority, and a stroke of diplomacy, our representative at the French court, Mr. Monroe, purchased of Napoleon Bonaparte in 1803 not only New Orleans, but all the Louisiana district, five times the area of France of today. The price was sixteen million dollars, one-fourth of which (if they amounted to so much) was to be paid to our citizens having claims against France known as the French Spoliation Claims. The territory thus acquired was about seven hundred and fifty-seven million acres, and is now cut up into eleven States and six Territories, and cost, including interest, three and three-fifths cents an acre. In 1802 Georgia ceded her extra fifty-seven and a half million acres to the United States, but, having previously sold most of it to the Yazoo companies, it cost us six million two hundred thousand dollars, about 11 cents an acre.

Thirty-eight million acres of East and West Florida still owned abroad were purchased of Spain in 1819, for six and a half million dollars. Alaska, whose climate, vegetation, minerals, furs and fisheries made it a most valuable acquisition, was purchased of Russia, through Baron Stoeckel, in 1867, for seven million two hundred thousand dollars; and thus three hundred and seventy million acres were added to the public domain.

The remainder of the public domain has been acquired as the result of conquest. Mexico, by treaty of Cordova, became independent of Spain in 1821. Texas, belonging then to Mexico, but settled mostly by emi-

grants from the United States, desired to be admitted as one of our States. Mr. Clay, then Secretary of State, offered Mexico one million dollars for Texas in 1827, and Mr. Van Buren offered five millions in 1829—which were declined. Texas rebelled against Mexico and obtained separation in 1836, but still failed in her design of being admitted as one of our States. The North had long been opposed to agrarian extension in the South, for that meant extension of negro slavery. But the South was victorious in 1843 and elected Polk President on that issue, linked to a promise of high tariff. Texas was then admitted as a State in this Union, and war with Mexico was the result. Texas was bankrupt, and for the public lands we got from her, sixteen million dollars of her debts were paid by this country. But this was more than balanced in the end, for the Mexican war resulted in her ceding to us New Mexico and Upper California for fifteen million dollars, together with the Gadsden purchase, also of Mexico, of a tract as large as Pennsylvania, for ten millions more.

And this comprises all the public domain. The aggregate is over eighteen hundred million acres. It is subject to a great variety of acts, by virtue of which it has been enormously reduced in the past thirty years. At first it was the policy of the Government to dispose of it as a means of revenue, but it was soon learned that the greatest real benefit would be derived from such disposition as would enable settlers to cultivate it free of first cost. With such vast possibilities before them, it is not surprising that politicians have run mad, and many speculators swamped; that the United States is the greatest agricultural country in the world, and the mother countries view with alarm what promises to be the strongest and wealthiest nation in the world at no distant day.

#### The Burying Ground at White Haven.

On Saturday, Nov. 6, a meeting of the Laurel Cemetery Association, White Haven, was held for the purpose of dedicating a newly acquired tract of land. Religious exercises were conducted by the local clergy—Rev. F. V. Krag, of the Presbyterian; Rev. H. H. Bruning, of the Evangelical Lutheran; Rev. G. H. Dwy, of the Methodist, and Rev. d'Estaing Jennings, of the Episcopal. Gaius L. Halsey, Esq., gave an interesting historical sketch of the enterprise, which had its inception in 1842, at which time the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. set apart a tract for a public burying ground and as a site for a place or places of worship.

In 1795 the first newspaper in the county "The Herald of the Times," was published in Wilkes-Barre.

#### The Old Sullivan Road.

The first of a series of articles bearing the above title appeared in the November number of *The Guardian*, a monthly magazine of the Reformed Church. The paper is contributed by the Rev. Mr. Kieffer, of Easton, the editor of the magazine, and is of historical account, inasmuch as it relates some incidents hitherto unpublished or inaccessible to the general reader, connected with Gen. Sullivan's expedition against the Western Indians, which set out from Easton on its long and dangerous march in the year 1779. The attention of the State Historical Society, Philadelphia, having been called to these articles, the librarian has written to the editor of the *Guardian* requesting copies for preservation in the State and Revolution collection, giving also the much desired information that the block bearing the inscription "Hell's Kitchen" is in the possession of the society, having been purchased of Mr. Stokes, of Monroe County, some years ago. This curious and celebrated inscription was cut into the solid wood of the yellow pine tree on Sullivan's march away up in the Pocono region by some unknown hand, and after having been removed some thirty years ago, all trace of it was lost, no one being able to tell what had become of it. It will be of interest to some of our readers to know that it is where it ought to be—in the keeping of the State Historical Society, 1,300 Locust Street, Philadelphia.—*Easton Free Press*.

#### The Battle of Germantown.

The *Germantown Telegraph* for November 10 contains an historical article on "Ancient Germantown," by Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss. It is full of interesting matter relating to the Revolutionary period and of the occupation of Germantown by the British. In the course of the narration it is related how one of the Keyzers, then living there, escaped from her home while entertaining under compulsion a party of British soldiers, she thus saving the family silver and a fine horse. The silver was buried and not found for many years. "It has been seen, the writer says, by Martin Coryell, of Lambertville, N. J., a descendant, but was lost in 1833 by a robbery. Mrs. Coryell, and her sister, Mrs. John Anderson, are descendants also of Mr. Duy, from whom Duy's Lane takes its name." Mr. and Mrs. Coryell were formerly residents of Wilkes-Barre and have a host of friends here. A previous article by Mr. Hotchkiss was descriptive of "The Chew House and the Battle of Germantown." The series form a valuable contribution to Revolutionary history.



## NANTICOKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Its Early History--One of Its First Moderators, Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, Still Living.**

The following interesting sketch of the Nanticoke Presbyterian Church is from the *Quarterly Review*, a neat little paper issued from the *Sun* office, by Rev. G. H. Ingram, pastor of the church:

The session have in their possession the records of the church back as far as Nov. 27, 1829. Then it was called the Church of Hanover and Newport. At the organization there were two ministers present, Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve and Rev. Nicholas Murray. The meeting was held in the school house, near Mr. Line's. Eighteen members were received from the Congregational Church in Wilkes-Barre. Ruling elders were chosen—John Schleppey, Anderson Dana, Jr., and Henry Stayer. John Schleppey was chosen deacon. The new officers were ordained to their offices. The names of the members are as follows:

John Schleppey, Anderson Dana, Jr., Henry Styer, Elizabeth Fairchild, Margaret Fairchild, Mary Line, Mary Lueder, Christian Schleppey, Anna Styer, John Sarber, Solomon Mill, Abraham Arnold, Sarah Schleppey, Clara Sarber, Elizabeth Whipple, Lorinda Dilley.

The session of the church of Hanover and Newport continued to meet in the school house "near Mr. Line's" or "near Mr. Mill's" until 1832, when on March 19th the entry is made "The Session met agreeable to appointment at the Nanticoke church. Rev. Mr. Rhodes presided as Moderator." At this meeting Miss Rosana Fairchild was received into the church upon profession of faith.

In 1834 Rev. J. Dorrance moderated the Session by request.

In Nov. 1836, Rev. Mr. Corne moderated the meeting of Session.

In Sept. 1837, Rev. Mr. E. H. Snowden presided.

May 21, 1843, the following entry appears: "The Rev. E. H. Snowden closed his connection with this church after supplying the pulpit one fourth of the time for seven years." From the time of the organization until May, 1844, thirty persons united with the church: Rosanna Fairchild, Catharine Vandermark, Jane Agatant, John Mill, St. John Koeker, Elizabeth Ann Schleppey, Julia Ann Stagle, James Atchley, Mary Atchley, Pricilla Fairchild, Robt. G. Robbins, Jr., R. Robbins, Sr., Margaret Robbins, John Robbins, Sarah Robbins, Elizabeth Robbins, Julian Stettler, Christiana Robbins, Susanna Roate, Lavinia Espy, Elizabeth Lape, Elizabeth Rasely, Susan Schleppey, Mary Vandermark, Ellen C. Styer, Martha Fairchild.

## Jenkins Family of Rhode Island.

The above is the title of a 16 page pamphlet by Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming, reprinted from the *Narraganset Historical Register*. The author finds that the Jenkins families were among the first to become Friends. The first trace he can get of his branch of the family (searched out from the records of the Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, the oldest organized society of those people in America) is relative to one John Jenkins, of Sandwich. The name John seems to have been a favorite one, it having been borne by one generation after another (with only a single break) down to the author's grandfather, who was of the sixth generation from John of Sandwich. The name of John figures so extensively in the records as to quite confuse the general reader. The original John, in 1658, was fined or "distrained" 19 pounds, 10 shillings for attending Quaker meeting. He had a son, Zachariah, (born 1651, died 1723), who had a son John, (born 1697, died 1742), who had a son John, (born 1728, died 1784), who had a son John, (born 1751, died 1827). The latter was Col. John Jenkins, grandfather of Hon. Steuben Jenkins. He was a school teacher, surveyor and conveyancer. He was one of the pioneers in settling Wyoming Valley, and was a leading man in the controversies with the Pennamites. He was guide to Sullivan's army in 1779 in the expedition to the northern wilderness to avenge the atrocities of the year before at Wyoming and Cherry Valley. He was born at Gardner's Lake, New London, Conn., Nov. 27, 1751, O. S., and died at Wyoming in 1827, on the historic battle ground. He married Bethiah Harris, of Colchester, Conn., in Jenkins Fort, Wyoming, only a fortnight before the bloody massacre of July 3, 1778. They had eight children, James (born 1796, died 1873) being the author's father. He was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary army, resided in Exeter Township, Luzerne County, Pa., where he died in 1827. James Jenkins married in 1815, Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. Samuel Breeze, of Basking Ridge, N. J. Hon. Steuben Jenkins is the third of their nine children, not one of whom, however, bears the traditional name of John. We notice that in 1745 one Stephen Wilcox married the widow of one of the Johns, but whether this is the same family as the William A. Wilcox, who married a daughter of the author, we are unable to say.

In 1787, on May 27th, Justices of the Court of Common Pleas commissioned and sworn in.

#### Fortunes Awaiting Claimants.

Dr. W. H. Egle, author of "Pennsylvania Genealogies," gives the following good advice in his *Notes and Queries* department of the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, advice, too, which may benefit some in Wilkes-Barre, the same "list" referred to by Dr. Egle having recently been advertised in a local paper:

A correspondent writes us to this effect: "I see in the *Free Press* of Detroit a list of names of persons entitled to money and property in England, France, Germany and other countries, among them being those of Dixon, Cochran, Murray, Henry and Robinson. My ancestors on my father's side came from England, on my mother's side from Scotland and Ireland. As you know so much about my ancestors I thought I would ask you if it would be any use to send our names as claimants. The advertisement says that \$480,000,000 lie buried in the courts of chancery, Bank of England, etc., awaiting claimants. The date of the newspaper is Oct. 9, 1888. I know that my grand mother often told us there were money and property for us if we got our rights. Please let me know what you think of this advertisement. It also says, send to the British American Claim Agency, Stewart Building, New York City, for their book register." This is only a specimen of letters very frequently received by us. We can only reiterate what we have heretofore said upon this subject. The whole thing is a deception of the basest kind, and the villains who are interested in this scheme to defraud the unwary deserve the penitentiary. There is no money awaiting unknown claimants and these thieving rascals who send out such advertisements know it.

#### Mr. Loop's Coon Sausage Dinner.

We had a conversation with Mr. Edward S. Loop, who has just returned from an extensive visit west through Western New York, Canada, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. Returning he stopped off at Detroit, at the Griffin House, where he found the most clean and comfortable compartments he met with during his entire journey West, in a public house. From thence he left for Pontiac, Mich., to see his old colored friend "Black Ben Tennant," as he was well known on the Ross farms over fifty years ago. Mr. Loop took a good dinner with him and family, of stewed chicken and coon sausage, celery, cranberries, sweet and white potatoes, two kinds of pickles and pies, cake, etc., etc., enjoying all. Jack Frost is getting into Tom's hair for he is nearly 84 years old. He cultivates a patch of ground a mile or so out of Pontiac and is happy with his wife and large family. His wife is a sister of Mrs. Susan Anderson, of this city. His

elder son, Thomas Miner, named for the elder Dr. Miner, is a carver at the Hodge House and his daughter Lavina is the cook. Another son, Tom, is a horse jockey when on land and at other times is head porter on one of the lake steamers. The family are all strict Methodists and Mr. Loop joined heartily in an "amen" after thanks were said for the coon sausage and other delicacies. Ben has many pleasant recollections of life in Wilkes-Barre and these will now be augmented by the *WEEKLY RECORD* which hereafter is to go to him regularly. The carriage was to call for his return at 4 pm. sharp. As it did not Ben said "never mind (Sterl), there will be another train later." "No, that will not do, I must be in Detroit to take 7:15 sharp." He made the train—the following passenger train was wrecked at Royal Oak, about 8 miles north of Detroit, and a number killed and injured. One of the most striking traits in Mr. Loop's character is his promptness and this determination to catch the 7:15 train probably saved his life.

ONE of the little deceptions which pleased our forefathers was a piece of furniture, looking like a book, but which on examination proved to be entirely of wood, the covers, raised bands, edges, etc., being very fairly simulated. This instrument—for such it was in reality—was nothing more or less than a pitchpipe for use in a church in order that the precentor might not start too high or too low when the psalm was given out. A New York man is the happy possessor of one. It measures three and a half by five and a half inches and was used in the first church in the town of Sterling, Mass., prior to the Revolution. At the junction of the upper edge with the front edge there is just such an aperture as is found in an ordinary whistle. The lower edge pulls out, being fastened to a slide, upon which the tones and half tones of the scale are marked by letters and lines. At the end of the slide is fastened packing of cork, which makes it fit accurately. Upon adjusting this slide at the desired pitch, and blowing through the aperture, a loud, clear tone is given forth. From the bottom of the movable edge hangs a piece of tape, which seems to serve as a book-mark and heightens the deception.

THE *Doylestown Democrat*, Nov. 16, says that M. W. Oliver, of Crawford County has donated to the Bucks County Historical Society a fine specimen of the iron axes which are frequently plowed up in the fields of Crawford County. The axe was shaped something like a hatchet, with a large eye, and was about seven inches long with about a four inch blade. The axes are supposed to have been made in Canada and used by the Indians in the French and Indian war.

## THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

Sketches of the Men who were Elected to Office on November 2.

## GOVERNOR, (REP.)

Gen. James A. Beaver, who has so handsomely just been shown the confidence of Pennsylvania, is not yet quite 50 years old, having been born in 1837 at Millerstown, Perry Co. His father died soon after James' birth and the boy was his mother's pride, a devoted son, a good scholar at the village school and a great favorite on the playground. In 1854, then in his 17th year, Beaver entered Jefferson College, at Canonsburg, Washington Co. In 1858 he was graduated, standing high in the class.

When but 19 years of age Beaver became a student at law in the office of Hon. H. N. McAllister, at Bellefonte, and entered the bar two years later. During his course of study Beaver had joined Captain Andrew G. Curtin's company, "Bellefonte Fencibles," and took great delight in the organization and drill.

President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, at the outbreak of the rebellion, received an immediate answer from the Fencibles, who elected officers, Beaver being chosen first lieutenant, and proceeded at once to Harrisburg. After the expiration of its three months' time, however, it was mustered out. Beaver then entered, heart and soul, into the effort to raise a regiment, the 45th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and was made its lieutenant colonel. In October, 1861, the regiment proceeded to South Carolina.

The stress of war necessitated Lincoln's further call for 800,000 volunteers. Pennsylvania responded nobly, and Governor Curtin appointed Col. Beaver to the colonelcy of a regiment which went directly to meet Lee in Maryland. The new regiment first experienced the sight of battle at Antietam. In this bloody engagement Col. Beaver's younger brother, a gallant lieutenant, fell in leading a brave charge when at the very works of the enemy.

In the disastrous battle of Chancellorsville, where Hooker was temporarily incapacitated, and where Stonewall Jackson met his death, Beaver was severely wounded and taken home as soon as he could be moved.

While the brave colonel was recovering slowly Lee arrived on the soil of Pennsylvania and Beaver refused the advice of the surgeons and hurried again to the field. In several battles that followed Col. Beaver received distinguished mention and was given charge of a brigade. He took a gallant part in many engagements, being wounded again at Petersburg and carried from the field. While at the hospital Gen. Beaver became too restless for the surgeons, and on the eve of a decisive battle, rode

upon the field in an ambulance. In the engagement which followed he was again wounded severely, losing his leg. This closed Beaver's active record on the field, a record bustling with gallantry and bullet stains.

On his return home Gen. Beaver resumed the practice of law. In 1882, as all remember, he became the Republican candidate for Governor, and was defeated by the broken ranks of the party. With almost the unanimous consent he again became the standard bearer last summer and after one of the most stirring and cleanest campaigns in the State's history is elected by a rousing plurality of 45,000 votes.

## LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, (REP.)

The face of Hon. Wm. T. Davies, Lieutenant-Governor-elect of the Commonwealth, has become familiar to Wilkes-Barreans during the campaign just closed. He has a characteristic American career; born in 1831, in Wales, he was brought to this State when two years of age, his father becoming a farmer in Warren, Bradford County. Living in the open air, used to hard work, Davies developed into a large and muscular lad fit for any amount of solid labor. In the odd hours of his time Davies read with avidity all the books that he could lay his hands on and his mind grew with his body. He entered the public school late and became a leader in his class.

Davies' good work at the local school gave such promise that he was sent to Owego Academy in New York, then famous, and he was graduated valedictorian with all honors. After graduating Davies betook himself to the pedagogue's profession, and in 1856, 25 years of age, he was appointed superintendent of schools in Towanda and continued there for four years, meantime studying law under Judge Elwell. In 1861 he was entered at the bar, and late in the same year he married Miss Watkins, daughter of a prominent lawyer of Towanda.

Davies in 1862 gave up his budding practice of law and enlisted in Co. B. 14th Reg. P. V., and in Oct. 1862, became its captain. A month later, before Frederickburg, Capt. Davies was taken with typhoid fever and was compelled to return to his home. Recovering too slowly for his impatient desire to be at the front, Davies hurried back, against the will of his physicians, and as a result he suffered as severe a relapse that his life at one time was despaired of. In May, 1863, he was honorably discharged from service.

In 1865 Davies was elected district attorney of Bradford Co. In 1876 he was elected to the State Senate, where he has been a prominent figure, respected for his manliness, integrity and sound judgment. No man is better fit to preside over the deliberations

of the body in which Lieut.-Gov. Davies is so well known. He is a brother of Dr. R. Davies of this city and an uncle of Dr. Davies of Nanticooke.

**AUDITOR GENERAL, (REP.)**

Col. A. Wilson Norris, Pennsylvania's new auditor general, is still a young man, having been born in Lewistown 44 years ago. Entering upon active service, at the outbreak of the war, a lieutenant, in the 107th P. V., he served gallantly until 1863, when he was captured at the battle of Gettysburg, being held 20 months in captivity. In July, 1865, he was honorably discharged from active service, having risen to a captaincy. Capt. Norris studied law at the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1867 he entered the bar of Philadelphia, where he took up his residence. In 1872 he became Gov. Hartranft's private secretary; in the same year he was the first recorder of the Board of Pardons; and in 1873 was appointed inspector general of the G. A. R., being elected, in the same year, as commander of the Department of Pennsylvania. During the six years following, Capt. Norris acted as secretary of the Republican State Committee, Capt. Norris served in other official positions, and 1881 was elected to the State Senate. On the staff of Gov. Hartranft Capt. Norris was appointed colonel and aide-de-camp, and served as judge advocate general on Gov. Hoyt's staff. President Arthur appointed Col. Norris pension agent at Philadelphia, and he was removed by President Cleveland.

**SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.**

Thomas J. Stewart was born in 1848 near Belfast, Ireland, and is the youngest man of the new officials of the State. When less than a year old he was brought to Norristown by his parents, and there he has lived ever since. In 1864, Stewart, though but 16 years old, entered the army, where he served until the war concluded. On the close of his army life Stewart entered upon commercial business, manufacturing window glass. Since 1882 Mr. Stewart has been Assistant Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania Department of the G. A. R., and during 1884 and 1885 he acted in the same position over the national organization. For the last nine years he has been Adjutant of the 6th Regiment Infantry.

During the last two years Mr. Stewart has been a member of the Assembly and is recognized as an able legislator.

**GEN. EDWIN S. OSBORNE, (REP.)**

General Osborne, who was re-elected Congressman-at-large, was born in Bethany, Pa., August 7th, 1836, and was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, and at the New York State and National Law School, graduating in 1860 with the degree of LL. B. Shortly afterwards, on the break-

ing out of the Rebellion, he was one of the first to volunteer, enlisting as a private in the Eighth Pennsylvania Infantry, and despite his extreme youth and lack of previous military education he rapidly rose to a place of distinction. After serving with his regiment in General Patterson's command, he received a commission from Governor Curtin to recruit a company, and performing this duty joined the One Hundred and Forty-ninth as captain. The regiment formed part of the First Corps of the Army of the Potomac and participated in all the engagements of the corps till after the Gettysburg battle when it was consolidated into the Fifth Corps. In the meantime Captain Osborne had become Major of his regiment and Assistant Inspector-General of the Third Division. During the war he was three times wounded and was successively brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel, Colonel and Brigadier-General for gallant and meritorious conduct in the face of the enemy.

Upon the close of the war, General Osborne was appointed Judge Advocate under General Holt, and sent to Macon and Andersonville to investigate the charges of cruelty to Federal prisoners of war by the Confederate Superintendent of Prisons, Captain Wirz. Upon a full investigation General Osborne preferred charges of murder against Wirz, who was tried by courtmartial at Washington, convicted and hanged. General Osborne was then sent to his own State to investigate charges of treason against various citizens confined in military prisons. He then resigned his commission, returned to his home in this city and engaged in the practice of his profession.

On the reorganization of the National Guards, the governor appointed Gen. Osborne the Major-General of them, and he held the position from 1871 to 1876. Gen. Osborne enjoys a lucrative law practice. He has had but little to do with politics, never having held a civil office until he was returned to Congress during the last general election. He is prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic, having been Department Commander in 1883. His popularity is attested in the State by the fact that he received 2,536 more votes than were polled for Blaine and Logan in the Presidential contest of 1884.

**CONGRESS, (DEM.)**

John Lynch, Esq., of the Luzerne Bar, is a native of Rhode Island, having been born at Providence in 1843. His father, a native of County Cavan, Ireland, emigrated to this country in 1830, residing in Wilkes-Barre from 1864 until his death in 1876, at the age of 75. John Lynch was educated at Wyoming Seminary, going to school in the winter and working as a farm hand in the summer. Mr. Lynch was admitted to the bar in 1865,

after having studied with W. G. Harding, Esq. The following year he was elected register of wills, over Capt. H. M. Gordon (Rep.) Mr. Lynch served as councilman-at-large from 1871 to 1874, and as city attorney during 1873 and 1874. He was defeated in 1879 by Hon. C. E. Rice for the president judgeship of Luzerne County, Mr. Lynch being the candidate of the Greenback-labor party. Mr. Lynch was married in 1877 to Mary C., a sister of John T. Lenahan, Esq., and District Attorney James L. Lenahan. Mr. Lynch has been a diligent and conscientious practitioner and therefore richly merits the success which he has achieved in his profession. The nomination for Congress came to him unsolicited, having previously been declined by Judge Woodward and J. H. Swoyer. With Gen. Osborne as Congressman-at-Large, and John Lynch as Congressman, Luzerne County, will not be likely to be neglected in the distribution of Federal favors.

REPRESENTATIVE, (DEM.)

J. Ridgway Wright, elected to represent the First district, (City of Wilkes-Barre), in the Legislature is 30 years of age and is well and favorably known in this community, of which he is a native. He is a son of the late Harrison Wright, one of the most able practitioners at the Luzerne Bar, and a nephew of the late Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, who, after a distinguished career in politics and law, died in 1871. Mr. Wright's parental ancestors came from England in 1681 with William Penn's colony of Quaker immigrants, and founded the village of Wrightsville, Burlington County N. J. The first of the name, John Wright, held a commission of Justice of the Peace and captain of militia under the seal royal of King Charles II. Caleb Wright, a grandson of John, removed to the Susquehanna country in 1796 and settled near what is now Shickshinny, but returned to New Jersey in 1811, leaving here a son, Joseph, grandfather of the deceased. Joseph Wright was for many years a prominent and influential citizen of Plymouth, or, as that portion of the valley was formerly called, Shawnee. The Wrights were formerly Quakers, or Friends, and Joseph Wright always adhered to their faith and stern integrity, notwithstanding he had been dropped from the society for marrying outside the Quaker faith. He married Ellen, daughter of John Hendrick, and had three sons born of the union; the late Hon. Hendrick B. Wright being the oldest, with Caleb E. and Harrison as younger brothers, constituting a very distinguished trio of lawyers, Harrison being one of the most brilliant and eloquent advocates that ever practiced at the Luzerne county bar. He was honored by his fellow citizens with a seat in

the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, where he served with distinguished honor. He died in 1856 while yet in the prime and vigor of his manhood, having just turned his forty-first year. Mrs. Wright, the mother, was before marriage, Emily, daughter of Jacob Cist, her mother being Sarah, daughter of Judge Matthias Hollenback, an ensign, and one of the survivors of the bloody massacre that took place in front of Fort Wintermute on July 3, 1778. There was thus the blood of the English Quaker commingling with that of his persevering German forefathers (the Hollenbacks having come of German stock) in the veins of one who at a very early period of life manifested his love of learning in a marked degree.

J. Ridgway Wright is a graduate of Princeton College, class of 1870. After graduating he took the Western fever, in common with many others of our townsmen, and went to Leadville in company with Sylvanus Ayres, Jr., and Samuel Newhouse, both of this city, he established himself in the coal business, to which he associated that of prospecting. Mr. Wright remained in Leadville two years and then went to New Orleans, where he was engaged in selling mines. He subsequently returned to Leadville, remaining there a year, when he accepted the position of secretary of the Wheel of Fortune Mine and established himself in New York City. He afterwards resigned his secretaryship and came back to his home in this city, where he has resided ever since. On the death of his lamented brother, Harrison, he was elected to fill his place as secretary of the Wyoming Historical Society. He has taken a foremost part in local dramatic and musical circles, in the military (he is adjutant of the Ninth Regiment, N. G. P.) and has identified himself with many other movements calculated to advance the public welfare. He is deservedly popular and has hosts of friends.

SHERIFF, (DEM.)

Hendrick Wright Search is one of the rising—indeed, risen—men of the young Democracy. He was born in Shickshinny in 1854 and is a son of George W. Search, one of the most prominent citizens of the lower end.

He was educated at the public schools, and after graduating therefrom he entered the store of George W. & Let Search, where he was continuously employed until the year 1882, when he was appointed clerk to the county commissioners. He served three years in this position and in 1885 became deputy clerk of the Orphans' Court, which place he has since filled acceptably to the court and the public. A year ago he married Miss Charch, a charming young lady living in Ashland, this State, and who has since become a valued accession to Wilkes-

Barre's social circles. Nominated by acclamation, without opposition, and receiving the united support of his party, he is probably the most popular man who ever trained with the Luzerne Democracy.

RECORDER, (DEM.)

Joseph J. McGinty, of Ebervale, was born in Durham, England, of Irish parentage, in the year 1850. He came to America 23 years ago and has always lived about Ebervale. He has worked in the mines from boyhood up and his father was killed in them fifteen years ago, which catastrophe made Joseph the head and protector of the family. His loving care for his six younger brothers secured a fair education for them all, and for one a college training from which he has graduated to the Catholic priesthood.

Mr. McGinty has been identified with the several miners' associations that have from time to time existed in this region and has occupied practically every position of trust conferred by them. He was a delegate to the State Labor Convention in 1875 and to the labor convention at Cleveland last summer.

He has always been a consistent and hard working Democrat. He has held and acceptably filled local offices, but this is the first time he was ever a candidate for a county office.

COBONER, (DEM.)

Dr. John B. Mahon, one of Pittston's most reputable practitioners of the healing art, was born May 17, 1850, at Lake Winola, Wyoming County. The first fourteen years of his life were spent upon a farm. At the age of 14 he was apprenticed by voluntary indenture to the carpenter's trade. In this avocation he continued for four years, when at the age of 18 he passed an examination as a teacher. He had prepared himself by night study. He taught three winter terms of school in Wyoming County, the summers being spent in working at his trade. At 21 he applied and received the appointment of principal of one of the Plains graded schools, holding the position for several consecutive years, preparing himself at the same time for Jefferson Medical College, which, resigning his teachership, he entered in 1879, graduating in 1882. He has since devoted himself exclusively to his medical duties in Pittston, where he has achieved an extensive practice. At the municipal election last spring he was reelected a member of the School Board by a large majority, although the district in which he resides is strongly Republican. Dr. Mahon is a prominent member of the Luzerne County Medical Society, and probably nearly every Republican vote of that organization was cast for him.

SURVEYOR, (DEM.)

James Crockett is a farmer, surveyor and justice of the peace in Ross, and one of the best known men in the Second District. Everybody speaks of him as Squire Crockett and his court has been the scene of many exciting trials as most of the Quarter Sessions courts in the country. He is thoroughly honest and upright and well liked.

In 1824 the first river boat propelled by horse-power, arrived in Wilkes-Barre from Nescopeck. It was a wonder.

RECENT DEATHS.

DR. A. A. HODGE.

The sad news of the death of Rev. Dr. A. A. Hodge, of Princeton Theological Seminary, was received Nov. 12. Dr. Hodge preached a stirring sermon Sunday, Nov. 7 to the students at Princeton, feeling in the most vigorous health. The day was cold and wet, however, and Dr. Hodge caught a severe cold, which, settling on his kidneys, ended in his death on Thursday, Nov. 11. The three brothers of Dr. Hodge were present at his bedside, as the serious nature of his malady was known for several days previous to his death.

Dr. Archibald Alexander Hodge, A. M., D. D., LL. D., was born at Princeton, N. J., July 18, 1823, and was therefore midway between 63 and 64 years of age. He was graduated from the College of New Jersey in the class of 1841. After studying theology at the seminary he was ordained by the Presbytery of New Brunswick, N. J., in May, 1847, and in the fall of that year he married and went to Allahabad, India, as a missionary under the control of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. Dr. Hodge remained at this post for three years, the failure of his health demanding his return in 1850. In that year he became pastor of a church at lower West Nottingham, Md., remaining in that charge for the ensuing five years. At the outbreak of the war Dr. Hodge was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Petersburg, Va., his pastoral relations with the congregation of that church being severed on the very day that marks the death of Rev. Dr. John Dorrance, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city.

A few months after Dr. Dorrance's death Dr. Hodge accepted a call to the church over which his brother, Dr. F. B. Hodge, is now pastor. In 1864, having been pastor in Wilkes-Barre for three years, Dr. Hodge was elected professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology in the Presbyterian Seminary at Allegheny City, where he remained until 1877. While holding this position Prof.

Hodge was for some years "stated supply" and installed pastor, severally, of the First Church of Pittsburg, and of the North Church of Allegheny City.

In 1877 Prof. Hodge was called by Princeton Theological Seminary as Associate Professor of Theology, the full professorship being held by his father, the late Rev. Dr. Charles Hodge. In 1878 Dr. Charles Hodge died, and his mantle fell upon his son, who has held the position of Didactic and Polemic Professor of Theology since that time. Dr. Hodge has twice been married, and leaves a wife and two daughters. The funeral services will be held on Monday afternoon at Princeton.

The death of Dr. Hodge does not break the connection which has identified the name of Hodge with Princeton Seminary, Dr. Charles Hodge's eldest son, Casper Wister Hodge, being professor of New Testament Literature and Biblical Greek at that institution. This position he has held since 1860, and he is recognized among scholars as perhaps the superior of his brother in theological scholarship. The connection which is thus kept up with Princeton has subsisted since the matriculation of Dr. Charles Hodge in 1811.

Dr. F. B. Hodge has the tender sympathy of the many friends of his lamented brother in this city, the elder pastor being a great favorite, for his kindly, genial nature as well as for his deep learning.

#### L. D. STURDEVANT.

Leverius Dunning Sturdevant, one of the oldest and best known men of Wyoming County, died Friday, Nov. 12 at his home in Mehoopany. He came of one of the old Connecticut families whose names are so well known along the Susquehanna. He was born in 1804 at Braintrim, Wyoming County, where he passed the greater portion of his life, and to the development and prosperity of which he materially contributed. He was a kind husband and father, and a valued member of the community in which he lived, and particularly noted for the virtues of hospitality and neighborly kindness. Belonging to a past generation, with few living contemporaries, he yet, by his native force of character, maintained a leading position to the last, and leaves behind him the example of a uniformly upright life. His wife preceded him to the grave July 21 of last year, in her 76th year, the husband being her senior by five years. He was a brother of the late Major John Sturdevant and Gen. E. W. Sturdevant, of this city, and his surviving children are Col. Samuel H. Sinton, E. W., L. D., and Dunning Sturdevant and Mrs. W. F. Goff, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. F. B. Ames, Mrs. Jerome Swartwood, of Mehoopany, and Mrs. James M. Robinson, of Skinner's Eddy. His

wife's death, as noted in the Record at the time, was the first to break a very large family circle. All her eight children are married and have families of their own, yet of all this large number of kindred, exposed to the countless perils which threaten existence, and covering nearly a century in time, this godly mother in Israel was the first to be called hence.

#### BISHOP BOWMAN'S MOTHER.

James Bowman, of the firm Wells, Bowman & Co., was recently called upon to mourn the loss of his mother, whose death occurred on the 1st inst., at the home of her son, Bishop Thomas Bowman, in Allentown. The following interesting sketch is from the *Item* of that city:

Mrs. Elizabeth Bowman, widow of the late Jacob Bowman, was the daughter of Thomas Weiss, of Weisport, and was born Dec. 5, 1808. She was the mother of ten children. Three—Charles, John and Louisa—died in infancy. Those living are Mrs. Cornelius Snyder and Mrs. Perry Wannemacher, residing in Allentown; Mrs. Judge Levi Wentz, residing in Millport, Carbon Co.; Bishop Thomas Bowman, of Allentown; Capt. James Bowman, of Wilkes-Barre; W. W. Bowman, cashier of the First National Bank, at Lehighton. She had her home with Judge Wentz at the old homestead in Millport, but came to this city on a visit to her children the latter part of July. She was taken sick at the house of Bishop Thomas Bowman, and died after much suffering Nov. 1. Deceased had for many years been a devoted and consistent member of the Evangelical Association, and was beloved and highly respected by all who knew her. She died very peacefully and in the assurance of faith.

#### ORRILLA WALLER BEEBE.

[Montrose Republican.]

Orrilla Waller Beebe died at the residence of her son, E. L. Beebe at Franklin Forks, Susquehanna Co., Nov. 1, 1886, aged 83 years and 6 months. She was the last survivor of a large family of children. Her father, Nathan Waller, was one of the early settlers in Wyoming Valley, bringing his family there shortly after the war of the revolution, although he himself had been there before, but was temporarily away at time. He had three brothers-in-law killed in the Wyoming Massacre in 1778. Mrs. Beebe was the youngest but one of ten children. Her father left the valley with his family in 1809 and moved to the town of Windsor, Broome Co., N. Y., where he died several years after, leaving a fine farm on the Susquehanna river which fell into the hands of his oldest son, Phineas Waller, father of Dr. D. J. Waller, of Bloomsburg, and of the late Judge Waller and his brother, George, of Honesdale. The old Waller farm

in Windsor, where Mrs. Beebe spent her youthful days and a portion of her early married life, was one of the noted landmarks on the Susquehanna and is known by the same title yet by all the people in that and adjoining towns.

The subject of this sketch was born in Wilkes-Barre in April, 1793, and lived there until she was sixteen years of age, and went from there to Windsor with the rest of the family. The moving took from Monday morning until Saturday night, and the route was from Wilkes-Barre to Pittston, then up the Lackawanna to Scranton, and from there by way of Dundaft and Clifford and through Harford to New Milford, spending Friday night at Summersville in the old log tavern, a place well-known to all the early settlers of this and adjoining counties.

The family arrived at their journey's end in Windsor on Saturday, the distance being about sixty miles. The conveyance used in moving consisted of two two-horse teams, and two saddle horses, on which the girls, five in number, alternately rode and walked. Mrs. Beebe was united in marriage to her late husband, Harry Beebe, when twenty-four years of age. They spent a married life together of about fifty-eight years, raising a family of six children, four sons and two daughters. Her husband left her a widow in June, 1875.

The funeral was attended by a large congregation of those who had known her for more than half a century. Her remains were lowered to their last resting place in the little cemetery at Franklin Forks, by two sons and four grandsons acting as pall bearers.

#### JOHN WROTH.

An incident, none the less sad from the fact that it had been expected, was the death Tuesday, Nov. 16, of John Wroth, cashier of the Wyoming National Bank. Mr. Wroth was 48 years old, universally known, loved and respected, not only in Wilkes-Barre, but in a large circle of acquaintance at his former home. He had been ill with a complicated disease for more than two years. His malady had been of a character to elude diagnosis by eminent physicians and it was only recently that his suffering was found to be due to the presence of a tumor in the throat.

Mr. Wroth was born in Cecil County, Md., Sept. 22, 1838, and had therefore just entered on the 49th year of his life. His youth and early manhood were passed on his father's farm, where he was born. From the Cecil County farm Mr. Wroth went to Philadelphia, where he was employed for several years as a head accountant by the Empire Transportation Co. From this position he went into the coal shipping business. In 1874 Mr. Wroth came to Nanti-

coke and accepted the position of cashier offered to him by the late Washington Lee, who had established there a savings bank. A year later Mr. Wroth married Elizabeth Norton, daughter of Wm. B. Norton, Esq., a man prominent for many years in Wilkes-Barre. In 1878, owing to the death of Mr. Lee, the Nanticoke bank retired from business and Mr. Wroth came to Wilkes-Barre, in charge of his interests, and in 1884 he undertook the position of cashier of the Wyoming National Bank, holding it until death severed his connection with affairs of this world. Mr. Wroth leaves a wife and son, Bentley, a boy nine years of age. Mrs. Wroth holds an insurance policy of \$11,000 on her husband's life.

In addition to the loss which Mr. Wroth's many friends sustain by the death of one whose character was in a high degree lovable and worthy of emulation, the public suffers a genuine calamity. Mr. Wroth's business judgment, his skill and ingenuity and painstaking methods in accounts, have long been known and respected in this city. He was a man who was becoming closely identified with the interests of the town and whose character and abilities would have been of large advantage in our industrial growth. Mr. Wroth was a vestryman of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and the funeral service was held at that church Thursday forenoon at 11 o'clock.

#### ISAAC RIPPLE.

Isaac Ripple, who died in White Haven on Oct. 31, was one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of Luzerne and Carbon Counties. He was born in Hanover Township 80 years ago next February, and was a twin brother of Abram Ripple, who died in 1875, after amassing a large fortune. The brothers went from Wyoming Valley to the Lehigh region about 1835, where they had extensive contracts with the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., constructing the dams in the Lehigh, afterwards swept away by a great freshet. He first located at Mauch Chunk, where he married a Miss Conner, who survives him. About 1836 he went to White Haven, then a wilderness, bought a lot of the Navigation Co., cut down the trees and built a house, now the site of the White Haven Hotel at the railroad station, afterwards built by him. He was landlord of this hotel for nearly 30 years, and it was a favorite stopping place for stage coaches between Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia in the olden time. About 1868 he moved on a farm of 100 acres, lying just outside of White Haven, which he had cleared and which was one of the finest in Foeter Township. He afterwards moved on an adjacent smaller farm where he died. He leaves an estate valued at about \$25,000. He was a Free



Mason and held nearly all the local positions of trust in communities in which he lived. He was regarded as an eminently upright and useful citizen. Besides his wife he is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth, widow of Theo. Smith, of White Haven; daughter Abi, wife of C. J. Shoemaker, of White Haven; daughter Alice, wife of Joseph Handlong, of Foster; daughters Anna and Clara, unmarried; Washington and George unmarried sons. Mayor Ezra H. Ripple, of Scranton, is a nephew. Among those present at the funeral were John Brown, of Easton; Jesse Lines, of Easton, now 80 years old, a boy with him in Hanover; Manus McGinty, of Wilkes-Barre and others. The sermon was by Rev. G. H. Day, a minister with whom he had become acquainted in White Haven in 1842, and who after the mutations of 46 years in the Methodist itineracy, is again stationed in White Haven. He was buried after the Masonic ritual by Laurel Lodge.

ROBERT M'D. SHOEMAKER.

At 1 pm. Nov. 22, Robert McDowell Shoemaker died at his residence in Forty Fort, aged 74 years. He had been ill for the past six months with a rheumatic affection, which, coupled with a general failing of the vital forces, culminated in his death.

Deceased was a son of Col. Elijah Shoemaker, a prominent man in Wyoming in his day and generation. His great-grandfather, Benj. Shoemaker, emigrated from the banks of the Delaware (now Monroe County) to Wyoming in 1763, but as the attempted settlement was crushed by the Indians in that year he returned from whence he came and never came back. The grandfather of deceased, also Elijah, was among the Connecticut settlers who located at Wyoming in 1776. Two years later he lost his life in the massacre of Wyoming. He was survived by an infant son, also named Elijah, father of deceased. This infant was born May 20, 1778, his mother being Jane McDowell, daughter of John, of what is now Monroe County. The paternal name was bestowed upon deceased. We quote from Kulp's "Families of Wyoming Valley:"

"Elijah, during the pendency of the disputes as to the title to the land of the valley, cleared a portion of that which he had purchased with money left him by his father of the Susquehanna Company, built an unpretentious habitation, and engaged in farming in a small way. It was while his affairs were in this condition that the grandfather [of deceased] was born and the massacre of Wyoming occurred; wherein he acted as lieutenant in the little band of patriots, and was slain. The widow and her babe were left in very poor circumstances, for practically everything in their little home had

been carried off or destroyed by the British and savages."

On his mother's side deceased's grandfather was Col. Nathan Denison, whose marriage in 1769, with Elizabeth Sill, is historic, having been the first nuptial knot tied in Wyoming Valley. From this marriage came Lazarus Denison, father of the late Charles Denison, Esq., and the name is handed down to Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, a brother of deceased. Mr. Shoemaker's death occurred upon the same fruitful acres that have been in the family for more than a century and which were paid for, not only with hard earned treasure, but with the life blood of a distinguished ancestor.

Deceased was born Feb. 12, 1812, and passed the whole of his life in the vicinity of Forty Fort. He was educated in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy and in his early manhood entered the mercantile business at Forty Fort, and retained his interest therein until some 12 or 15 years ago, when he retired from all active business and devoted himself to his farming interests. His disposition was quiet and retiring. Though a staunch Republican, he took no active participation in politics and never held or sought any public office or trust. He was widely known and universally esteemed throughout the valley as a man of generous and refined nature, of the strictest integrity and in his earlier years of great industry.

He was the fourth son of Col. Elijah Shoemaker, who had six sons and three daughters. Of this family but two are now living, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, of this city, and Caroline, wife of Dr. Levi Ives, of New Haven, Conn. Dr. Ives was in attendance in consultation with local physician a short time before Mr. Shoemaker's decease.

He leaves one son, Robert, now superintendent for several collieries of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., who resides on North River Street, in this city, and is esteemed as one of the most efficient and energetic men connected with the company. The funeral took place on Friday at 2 pm. from the late residence, the interment being made in Forty Fort cemetery.

R. E. SNOWDEN.

The many friends of Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, the oldest Presbyterian clergyman in Wyoming Valley, will be sorry to hear that he has recently sustained the loss of a much loved brother, Col. Robert Ralston Snowden. His death occurred Nov. 14, in Memphis, Tenn., in which city he had carried on the mercantile business for the last 12 or 15 years. Col. Snowden was in the 77th year of his age and was a prominent and honored citizen of the once fever-stricken city along the Mississippi, though he never flinched when the yellow fever was decimat-

ing the city's populace. His death occurred at the residence of his nephew, Col. Robert Bogardus Snowden. The latter was a gallant officer in the Confederate army, and was a grandson of Gen. Robert Bogardus, of New York.

Deceased was born at New Hartford, N. Y., and was the eighth child of Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, out of whose family of 10 children, three are living—Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, of Luzerne County; Arthur Henry Snowden, a merchant in Stratford, Conn., and James Anderson Snowden, a planter in Arkansas. His wife died some years ago and he is survived by only one child, a married daughter.

The grandfather of deceased, Isaac Snowden, was a prominent Philadelphian during the Revolutionary war and at one time was treasurer of the city and county of Philadelphia. He was so pronounced a Whig that his presence was particularly obnoxious to the British during their occupancy of Philadelphia and he and his family were compelled to seek safety in the country. He was a large owner of real estate in the city of Philadelphia.

Isaac Snowden had five sons, all of whom were graduated from Princeton College, and four of whom were ministers—Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, who took the class honors and who became the first pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Princeton; (he was the father of deceased and of Rev. E. Hazard Snowden); Gilbert, who preached at Cranberry, N. J., and who was a fine extempore speaker; Charles and Nathaniel, the latter located at Pittsburg and Harrisburg.

Of Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden's family, Mary Cox married Dr. Roswell P. Hayes, and was the mother of Hon. Samuel Snowden Hayes, an eminent Chicago lawyer, politician and friend of Stephen A. Douglas, though he once worsted the latter in a public debate in Chicago during the agitation of the Missouri Compromise, the populace by an overwhelming vote sustaining Mr. Hayes' opposition to the revocation of the Compromise. The other children of Rev. S. F. Snowden were Samuel Breese, E. H., (living), Arthur Henry, (living), Susan Breese, James Anderson, John Bayard, Robert Ralston, (just deceased), Sydney Breese and Elizabeth Breese.

#### Survey for Kingston.

[From MSS. collection of Hon. Steuben Jenkins.]

A road laid out by Silas Bingham, William Buck, John Perkins, Timothy Smith, Reuben Davis and John Jenks, who were appointed a committee for that purpose on the 25th of May, 1770. After looking and viewing for some time we begun on Shawnee line about 20 rods east of Toby's Creek, at a saxafrax stake on the east side of a road,

which we laid six rods wide. Thence we ran north 45 degrees east, about 2¾ miles to a small white oak staddle on the north side of the town plot, thence N. 35 minutes E. 246 rods to a saxafrax stake on the north side of Abraham's Creek; thence N. 70 degrees E. 173 rods to a walnut stake; thence N. 48 degrees E. 53 rods to a black oak stake; thence N. 50 degrees E. about 1 mile to the town line, of Kingston and Exeter.

#### Some Newspaper Clippings.

[From Republican Farmer, W-B., Oct. 20, 1830.]

#### SUSQUEHANNA LINE.

This line has commenced running regularly between Wilkes-Barre, Northumberland, Williamsport, Harrisburg and Philadelphia and intermediate places. The boats leave Wilkes-Barre daily at 2 o'clock pm. and arrive at Northumberland every morning at 7½ o'clock and at Harrisburg the following evening at 9 o'clock, where passengers will remain over night and take the railroad cars next morning for Philadelphia, &c—through in 48 hours from Wilkes-Barre.

Fare to Northumberland.....	\$2.00
" " Harrisburg .....	4.00
" " Philadelphia .....	8.00

For freight or passage apply to

P. McC. Gilchrist, Phoenix Hotel,

Wilkes-Barre, May 7, 1830.

[In our days of "apprenticeship," cheap fuel and rapid transit such things seem very antiquated. Will the next half century bring communism, a new caloric and aerial yachts?]

#### RUNAWAY APPRENTICE.

In the Wilkes-Barre papers of that day such advertisements as the following appear, accompanied by a picture of a little fellow galloping off with a bundle tied to a stick and thrown over the shoulder:

"SIX CENTS REWARD.—Ran away from the subscriber on the 12th inst., James Pringle, an indentured apprentice to the farming business. he was about 14 years of age, of light complexion, he had on when he went away butternut colored pantaloons, and frock coat, all persons are forbid harboring or trusting him on any account as no charges will be paid. ISAAC SMITH.

Exeter Township, April 9th, 1836."

#### COAL FIFTY YEARS AGO.

[From Republican Farmer, Dec. 2, 1835.]

A CARD.—I am now ready to deliver coal to the citizens of Wilkes-Barre at the following prices, viz.:

At the shute.	
Lump coal, per ton of 2,240 lbs.....	\$1 25
B-oken coal and raked .....	1 12
Fine coal without screening.....	75

Lime burner's coal per bushel 1½ cents, and 25 cents per ton additional for hauling.

ALEXANDER GRAY,

Agent for Thomas Symington,  
Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 27, 1835.

**Wilkes-Barre Schools Fifty Years Ago.**

[Contributed by G. H. R. Plumb.]

The following references to early educational facilities in Luzerne County will be interesting, not only to the oldest generation now living, but to their children, in whose minds the experiences of their parents in those early days wear the glamor of mystical heroism. The elder Dr. Miner's letter shows the spirit of most of those of his generation, but with all their attempts they failed to repair the old academy to any extent. Very likely it was owing to the exceedingly hard times following the financial policy of the Government, and also that emigration to the Western States was in everybody's mind.

The fact that there was a female seminary here so long ago is not generally known among the younger people. "Wyoming Seminary," another institution for females contemporaneous with the former, was conducted by the Misses Perry, also, in Wilkes-Barre, having courses of study and expenses not quite so high.

Is it not a little singular that the enterprise which reared and sustained three such institutions under such circumstances should have languished and been succeeded by an apparently ineradicable stigma of "old fogeyism?" If it has resulted from the systems of instruction and discipline that they practiced, our posterity will have abundance of opportunity in the future to rid themselves of such shackles through the influence of "object lessons," "kindergartens" and "industrial schools."

**AN APPEAL FOR THE OLD ACADEMY.**

[Excerpts from a letter by Dr. Thomas W. Miner in *Republican Farmer*, April 20, 1836, John Atherholt, Printer and Publisher.]

"As the old academy is no longer fit for use but sinking into ruinous dilapidation, the question forces itself upon us—shall we let it go? . . . We might point with pride to numbers of men in active life at home and abroad, who adorn the professions in which they are engaged—at the sacred altar—in the army—at the bar and in other employments who owe to the academy here the best part of the education which has rendered them useful, successful and distinguished. . . . It is firmly believed that no institution of the kind in the State, during a number of years past, has performed the purposes of its establishment more effectively. . . . Not the citizens of the borough or vicinity alone, then, are concerned in having a first-rate academy at Wilkes-Barre, but also the whole county. . . . Shall it be said that the institution which our fathers reared when the county was yet new and money scarce, and with which so many honorable names are associated, as Scott, Mallory,

Greenough, Dyer, Denison, Beaumont, Joseph, and Joel Jones, and I may be pardoned if I add C. Miner, shall be neglected and decay without an effort on our part to hold fast the benefits that have resulted to us? . . . And now with double the wealth and treble the population is there not public spirit enough in the county to preserve it? Is there no reason to suppose that, when the public improvements now in a state of advancement shall be completed and the valley rendered easily accessible that this will become a place of resort by the intelligent traveler from Europe as well as those of own country? . . . A flourishing academy, the tuition being moderate, would bring from 40 to 50 boarders to the town; the shoemaker would of course be called on for shoes, and the tailor and merchant in their callings; boarding houses would be employed, and the farmer have new demand for his produce."

The Wilkes-Barre Female Seminary was opened during the latter years of the existence of the academy. It was on "River" Street, only shortly before changed to that name from "Bank" Street. The appended advertisement is in the *Republican Farmer* for April 24, 1830:

**WILKES-BARRE FEMALE SEMINARY.**

This institution will be open on the first Wednesday in May for the reception of pupils. The course of study will embrace three years, including the primary class, each year consisting of two terms of 22 weeks each. . . .

The course will embrace the following studies:

**PRIMARY CLASS.**

1st Term—Orthography, reading, writing, grammar, geography, arithmetic, history, composition, etc., etc.

2d Term—Studies of the preceding term reviewed and continued; outline of history, natural philosophy.

**JUNIOR CLASS.**

1st Term—Grammar, arithmetic, history geography, rhetoric with a reference to composition, physiology.

2d Term—Grammar, chemistry, intellectual philosophy, geography of the heavens, algebra, logic and composition.

**SENIOR CLASS.**

1st Term—Algebra continued, logic, Euclid, Aberombie on Moral Feelings, astronomy, history, composition.

2d Term—Euclid, moral science, Evidence of Christianity, Butler's Analogy, chemistry, geology. . . .

**TERMS.**

For board, lights, fuel, etc., with tuition in English branches, \$75 per term.

For tuition of day pupils in English branches, \$6 per quarter.

Washing per dozen .....	.50
For tuition in French, .....	\$5.00
"    "    " Drawing and Painting.	4.00
"    "    " Music .....	3.00
Use of Piano .....	2.00

Provision will be made for instruction in Latin and Greek without any additional charge to the pupil.

The department of Education will be under the direction of Miss F. M. Woodworth. The Seminary is delightfully situated on the bank of the Susquehanna.

#### State Historical Society Reception.

Some of our local antiquarians received invitations to the fall reception of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, in Philadelphia on Thursday Nov. 11. The affair was in charge of a committee of two, consisting of Messrs. F. D. Stone and F. H. Williams. All of the rare historical treasures of the society were thrown open for the inspection of the guests. The reception continued from eight o'clock until twelve. A luncheon was served at half-past nine. Among the prominent persons present were: Hon. Thomas H. Dudley, Assistant Bishop Whitaker, Dr. William R. Duntun, Edward Shippen, John Jordan, Jr., Charles Spencer, Engineer George W. Melville (the Arctic explorer), S. Grant Smith, George M. Conarroe, Counsellor John I. Clark, H. S. Morris, Horatio Gates Jones, James B. Sword and others.

#### AN EVENTFUL CAREER.

**A Native of Wilkes-Barre Who Passed Through Two Wars, Was Attacked With Chagres Fever in South America, Narrowly Escaped Assassination in Missouri and Finally Met Death by Accident.**

The Rochester *Union and Advertiser* has an interesting biographical sketch of our former townsman, W. R. Loop, whose death by accident has already been noted in the RECORD. His career was so eventful that we believe our readers will be glad to peruse such portions of it as we can make room for:

At St. Louis at the breaking out of the Mexican War, he enlisted as a private, continuing in the army until the end of the war. He was in the regiment under Col. Donohan when the famous march was made under Gen. Kearney from St. Louis to Santa Fe. This was in 1846. The regiment was disbanded at Santa Fe, the soldiers finding their way back to St. Louis on foot in squads of six to ten. Soon after his return to St. Louis he embarked in the mercantile business with a Mr. Brand (a creole.) The business was continued until the great fire, about 1849, when he was joined by his brother Edward. This was the year that

the cholera prevailed to such an alarming extent, very many persons fleeing from the city. Not so with Loop. He remained perseveringly, attending to his business, striving and succeeding in paying his debts, though the insurance companies paid him only 50 cents on the dollar, the severity of their losses compelling them in this course. These were blue times for Loop; he paid his debts, but only had enough money remaining to purchase him an outfit for a journey across the plains in 1850 to California, which was coming into notice about this time. He made the journey with five companions, on foot, having ox teams to carry their luggage. The panic of 1851 being precipitated soon after he returned from California, and in order to economize he shipped as a common sailor before the mast, down the Pacific coast to Nicaragua, thence through the Nicaragua river and lake to Greytown, where he had a violent attack of the Chagres fever caused by exposure in the rainy season, under a burning sun. From Greytown he took the steamer Daniel Webster to New York, being only just alive when the steamer arrived. On recovering from this tedious and dangerous illness, lasting the entire winter, he found his way to Hannibal, Mo., where he was employed by Mr. I. R. Selma, an old and highly respected merchant. Here he purchased a nice residence and had his mother and sister with him. He remained at Hannibal until the exciting secession times (preceding the Rebellion) staunchly maintaining his character of a Union man, loving his country and willing to make any sacrifice. It will be remembered that Union men, living on the borders between the Northern, or free States, and the Southern, or slave States, were in most trying positions. No one probably suffered more for his loyalty than Mr. Loop.

The men treated him cruelly, and the women pointed their fingers at him in scorn and derision in the streets. Yet he was not to be swerved a hair's breadth from the line of duty, as he understood it. An acquaintance came near to him one day in his place of business, when suddenly, without warning of any kind, gave him a violent blow on the head with a brick, evidently intending to kill him. He concluded after this occurrence that it was not safe for him to remain there, so he severed his connection with Mr. Selma, much to the sorrow and regret of the latter, himself a Union man, who was ruined by the hatred of the Secessionists, and compelled a short time after Mr. Loop's departure to go himself. On leaving Hannibal, Loop came east, visiting Wilkes-Barre, Pa., the home of his childhood. It was there that he enlisted among the "Emergency Men" at the call of the State government in the summer of 1863. After being mustered

out of service on this occasion he returned to Wilkes-Barre, and after a very brief period he enlisted again, this time at the call of the general government, for three years of the war in the 143d regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. This regiment was in the brigade, which was under the lamented Gen. Wadsworth, which went through the battles in Virginia. On the seventh day of the nine days' battle of the Wilderness he (Loop) received a bullet through his hip, which wounded him so severely that he was incapacitated for severe manual labor during the remainder of his life. He was taken to the Douglas Hospital in Washington and from there he was transferred to the City Hospital in Rochester. He continued to reside here up to the day of his death, which occurred within one day of his sixty-fifth birthday. An exemplary Christian, a faithful, loving son, brother and friend, his like will not soon be found again.

#### COLONIAL SECRETARY THOMPSON.

##### The Supposed Stealing of His Body and the Excitement Which was Created—A Man Who Figured Prominently in Continental Affairs.

A recent issue of the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* contained an article by Dr. James J. Levick, of Philadelphia, on "The Harriton Cemetery," an ancient private burying ground near Bryn Mawr, the paper giving details of an incident which agitated the community intensely half a century ago. It appears that the property passed in 1719 from Rowland Ellis, a noted Friend minister, to the Harrison family, who had come from Maryland, the locality soon coming to be called Harriton. Richard Harrison provided by will for the reservation of two acres of his ground in Merion Township as a Friends' meeting house and burial place forever, the will bearing date of 1746. The cemetery is now a neglected little plot, enclosed by a stone wall, within which are 20 or more graves, marked and unmarked. Signboards offer a reward of \$20 for arrest of trespassers who injure the property. The writer goes on to relate how these signs came to be placed there. In 1824 was buried here Charles Thompson, son-in-law of Harrison, the founder. He was an Irishman, an American patriot, and being, what was rare in those early days, a short-hand writer he was chosen secretary of the Stamp Act Congress in New York, in 1765. He was unanimously elected secretary of the Continental Congress throughout its existence and was secretary of the first House of Representatives. It was he who officially notified Washington of his election to the Presidency. He was called "the Sam. Adams of Philadelphia, the life of the cause of lib-

erty." After his remains had been peacefully mouldering in the tumble-down burying ground of Harriton it was discovered that his grave had been opened and the body removed. The newspapers condemned the offence and reward were offered for the perpetrators. This soon brought out a letter from a nephew of Charles Thompson, that out of respect of memory of his uncle and after consultation with the relatives he had caused the remains to be removed to a more suitable place, a new cemetery known as Laurel Hill, and a granite monument to be erected. The affair caused great excitement, but the public finally acquiesced in the removal and it became forgotten. Dr. Levick's narrative is mainly new matter and is intensely interesting. Mr. Thompson spent his declining years in study of the bible, he having made an original translation of the Septuagint and the New Testament.

##### The Osterhout Free Library.

The will of the late Isaac S. Osterhout, who provided so munificently for the establishment of a free library in Wilkes-Barre, stipulated that no steps should be taken until five years have expired. This limit will be reached next spring and the trustees are casting about for some plan to pursue when the time for action shall arrive. A meeting was held by them last week, at which time a distinguished public library specialist was present, Mr. Melvil Dewey, of New York, professor of Library Economy in Columbia College, consulting librarian of Wellesley College, secretary of the American Library Association, editor of the *Library Journal*, etc., etc. The ground was carefully gone over with this gentleman and his views had. It will be remembered that an arrangement has already been made for the purchase of the Presbyterian Church property on Franklin Street, though possession cannot be had under a year or so, or at least until the congregation shall be able to worship in some portion of their handsome edifice now in course of construction a few doors below, at the corner of Franklin and Northampton Streets.

It has been expected that the old church would be demolished and a library building erected on the site, but Mr. Dewey advises against such a course, at least for the present. His suggestion is that the trustees can as yet form no adequate idea of the extent to which such a library would be patronized and that should there prove to be little demand, any great outlay for an expensive building or for an immense collection of books would be undesirable. He recommends that the interior of the church edifice be converted into a library, this to be done without any considerable outlay, and that the books be purchased by degrees, or as

rapidly as the demand seems to warrant. After a few years of such a trial the building proper could be constructed and properly supplied with books. The church being in excellent condition, Prof. Dewey's suggestion would seem to be an eminently practical one. His suggestion also implies the use of such a portion of the interior as may be necessary for the reception of the collection of the Wyoming Historical Society and the use of the present Sunday school room for meetings of the society. Mr. Dewey's plan would not at once add a handsome building to our city, but would ultimately lead to this desired result.

**Caleb E. Wright, Esq.'s New Book.**

Our readers will pleasantly recall a couple of historical novels from the pen of our former townsman, Caleb E. Wright, Esq., of the Luzerne bar, now of Doylestown. In 1864 Harpers published his "Wyoming. A Tale," an octavo pamphlet of 123 pages, and in 1873 J. B. Lippincott & Co. published his "Marcus Blair. A Story of Provincial Times. Written for the Young. With Illustrations," 12 mo., pp. 168.

Now we have another volume from his nimble pen, entitled "On the Lackawanna. A Tale of Northern Pennsylvania." It is printed at Doylestown and is dedicated to his life-long friend and companion on the trout streams, Edward Dolph, of Scranton. All through, the book suggests the dark forests where trout abound, and there are numerous pen pictures of woods life which must have been actual experiences of this hardy fisherman, who even yet visits the trout streams of old Luzerne as regularly as the seasons. The volume comprises 253 pages and, as its title implies, has for its scene the Lackawanna-Wyoming region. It is a tale of the troublous time when the Yankee and Pennamite contest for the soil of Wyoming vexed the souls of our ancestors and even spread desolation and death throughout this beautiful valley. It is a love story—for what purpose is it to write unless one weaves a tale of love? It opens, perhaps about 1780, certainly before 1782, with a thrilling forest fire in the mountains of the Lackawanna valley, and the meeting under a stone arch bridge (the only place of safety) of two fugitives, strangers to each other, a young man and a young woman, he a Pennsylvanian, she a Yankee, who has run away from her Connecticut home. The stone arch bridge, at so early a day, is rather a bold creation of the novelist, but then a writer of fiction must be permitted something by way of poetic license. They become separated while on the way to Capouse Meadows, and she loses herself along the Nyanan. After

wandering four days she is found half dead and given shelter by a Connecticut family. The pater domo intercepts a letter from her old home begging her to return, as a relative has died, leaving her the heir to the estate, it to revert after her death to another relative, who happens to be the man under whose roof she is now being nursed back to life. He determines upon making way with her by poison, but fails, she having been warned by a red-headed urchin who figures conspicuously in the narrative. Two other unsuccessful murderous attempts are subsequently made. Shortly after she is ordered under arrest by Col. John Franklin on suspicion of being a Pennamite spy. The evidence consists of a package found in her possession, addressed to Alexander Patterson, then in command of Wilkes-Barre fort. Her enemy inflames the Connecticut settlers with whisky and lies and an attempt is made by them to hang the suspect to the nearest tree. An old Quaker interferes and the tragedy is prevented, the crowd consenting to a trial, with an old Hollander as judge. She proves her Connecticut extraction and explains that the package was slipped into her hands by her unknown companion just before he left her, they having been fired at from an ambush. She is speedily transformed from a spy to a heroine. Col. Franklin makes an announcement which thrills her. Her new friend is a prisoner in the hands of Patterson, at Wilkes-Barre, and is to be shot on the accusation of embezzling certain funds committed to his care by the State authorities, to be delivered to Patterson, the mysterious package already alluded to. She determines to rescue him, a feat which she is enabled to do, aided by the red-headed boy, who paddled his passengers down the Lackawanna and Susquehanna to Wilkes-Barre fort, where they got the sentinel drunk and then easily rescued the prisoner. The contests between the Yankees and the Pennamites wax warmer, acquaintance kindles into love and the reader cannot fail to become intensely absorbed by Mr. Wright's interesting narrative. Names of familiar pioneers are here and there introduced, not forgetting the first physician of the Lackawanna region, Dr. Joseph Sprague. The author's bent of mind is strikingly seen in every chapter. Sometimes it is a little glimpse of the glories of angling for trout, again it is a flash of his legal acumen, and still again it is a touch of that religious fervor which has always made the author a leader in the church of his choice. The spirit and purpose of the book is excellent. It is a valuable contribution to the literature of the region and Mr. Wright may well entertain a just pride in being its author.

# The Historical Record

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## FUGITIVES FROM THE SLAUGHTER.

**A Narrative of Pioneer Suffering, Never before Published Here. Hair Breadth Escapes From the Savages.**

In Wyoming's centennial year (1778), the gentlemen having in charge the event were the recipients of numerous interesting historical communications from persons in some way identified with the valley, but not able to be present at the exercises. All these are now in the custody of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, and one of them has been furnished by Secretary Wesley Johnson for publication in the RECORD. It is an obituary of one of the fugitives from the slaughter, and was accompanied with an explanatory letter to Hon. Steuben Jenkins at Wyoming, from John L. Davison, Lockport, N. Y., a grandson of deceased. He says her maiden name was Elizabeth Fitchet, and that her husband was John Davison the son of John. The John D. Davison mentioned in the letter was the father of John L. Davison, the fourth bearing the name of John. The obituary was taken from the *Theresa Chronicle*, Jefferson Co., N. Y., of May 5, 1848, and is (somewhat condensed) as follows:

### DEATH OF MRS. ELIZABETH DAVISON.

The above named lady departed this life on the evening of Tuesday, the 2nd instant, in the 87th year of her age, at the residence of her daughter in this village.

Mrs. Davison was a native of Poughkeepsie, from whence she removed with her parents to Pennsylvania at the period of the Revolution, and resided at the time of the massacre at Wyoming at a small settlement about six miles from that ill fated town.

The news of that lamentable event warned the settlers of the village, consisting of nine families, of which Mrs. Davison's formed one, of the dangerous situation they were in. Accordingly they lost no time in endeavoring to seek out a more secure abode, and after undergoing fatigue and hunger for nine days they were captured by a party of Indians and Tories and reconducted to their abandoned homes. Here their captors, whose business was plunder, after having selected the most commodious and sumptuous residence, set up life in a princely style, compelling their prisoners to perform all the menial offices of their household.

On one occasion a party of the brigands, returning hungry, ordered the captives to slaughter a pig and prepare them a supper. Preparation being hastened with all possible dispatch, the father of Mrs. Davison, employed, as desired by the savage leader, in dressing the food, a tall Indian standing in front of him, offered his hand in friendly greeting—another at the same moment planting himself in the rear of his intended victim with his tomahawk lifted as if to give the fatal blow, while the first savage attempted to seize the knife with which the prisoner was employed. A struggle ensued for the weapon, in which the savage disarming his foe, fell with the impetus of his own weight. Regaining his feet, the furious Indian sprang upon his prisoner, aiming the fatal plunge at his breast. The distracted daughter, who had remained till this moment, saw no more, but fled with the arrow's speed, and reported the supposed murder of her father in the rendezvous of her party—and then with the spirit of extermination aroused in her agonized breast, she procured a quantity of onions, a vegetable of which the Indians were known to be fond. Slicing them, she mingled with them a quantity of arsenic, and took her way to their place of banqueting to share the sad fate of her father, or destroy the savages. But their supper was ended and the banqueters gone on some new expedition of mischief. Where the girl had expected to find the mangled corpse of her father, no trace of him was to be met with, but during the ensuing night his party were gladdened by his return free from harm. Having eluded the savage who had been intent on having his scalp, he kept himself secreted till their departure.

On another occasion, accompanying a distressed wife, whose absent husband, it was feared, had fallen a victim to the violence of the times, to her deserted cabin on some necessary errand, the sorrowing woman fell upon her knees and addressed her petitions with such fervor to the God of battles for the preservation and safe return of her husband as to inspire the trembling girl who had never heard prayer uttered in that fervent manner till then, with a sympathetic confidence with the poor wife, that the Supreme Disposer of events would not only restore the absent husband, but in due time rescue the suffering band of captives, whose

lives were suspended as upon the breath of a savage brigand.

"And when on the following morning," to use the impressive language of the deceased, "I saw Thomas Paine for whose preservation his wife had so fervently prayed, the only survivor of a scout of sixty chosen men, ascend from the river bank in his saturated apparel and rush to the embrace of his joyful companion, I claimed no further evidence that the eternal Jehovah took cognizance of and superintended the affairs of men."

The discovery of a barrel of spirits, which had been hidden in an adjoining field of wheat on the flight of its proprietor, led to the escape of the captives and consequent breaking up of this Tory rendezvous. The intoxicating beverage being distributed among the reckless band aroused the slumbering fiend in their fierce nature. A plot was formed in their drunken councils for the massacre, during the ensuing night, of all the prisoners in their possession, and but for the vigilance of Elizabeth, whose favor with the chief gave her assurance sometimes to mingle with his Tory court, the whole captive party must have shared the awful fate of their neighbors of Wyoming. Suspecting that all was not right, the heroic girl, taking advantage of the friendship of a young Indian girl, won the important secret; and then, acting in concert with the young squaw, locked it close in her own breast till the captives had retired with their children to their allotted "caboose" for the night, and the precise time had arrived when the frenzy of the savages had subsided into more helpless intoxication, she informed her party of their danger, who noiselessly and successfully stole from their drunken guard, took a new direction through the forest, and finally eluded their pursuers. Though in momentary apprehension of a recapture, or a scarcely more dreaded death that seemed inevitable from exposure or starvation, the hopes of this hunted party seemed not to be broken till on the third day of their second flight, the arrival of Col. Butler, with a force of 375 men, to their inexpressible relief, dispersed the brigands and garrisoned Fort Wilkes-Barre for the protection of the defenceless.

The father of Mrs. Davison, having suffered so severely from the depredations of the Tories, resolved to quit so insecure an abode. Accordingly, he set out immediately with his family, consisting of eight children, all of whom were under sixteen years of age, to return to Poughkeepsie, whither the mother of these children had some time preceded them. They had now a distance of some two hundred miles to traverse. The cattle, with the goods secured upon the

backs of the oxen, were given in charge of the heroic Elizabeth, now but seventeen years of age, who, without shoes and with no other covering for her head than a man's hat, and in three places gashed with a tomahawk, entered on her charge. When arrived at the Lehigh, Elizabeth with her cattle had no means of crossing but by fording, and being at a distance from her party, who crossed a few miles below upon fallen timber, was thrown upon the resources of her own invention for a mode of subduing the difficulty. Directing her cattle into the stream, which, to use her own language, "was as orderly as a company of soldiers," with the exception of the heifer, which she claimed as her private property, this animal she retained by regaling it with salt, with which her pocket was furnished for the use of her little herd, she watched the progress of the others till they were safely over, and then grasping her heifer by the tail with her right hand, directing the animal into the stream, holding a parcel containing her clothing above her head in her left hand resolved, in her own words, "if I must be drowned, to die with my heifer." But the strong and active beast, instinctively carrying its head above the surface, buffeted the current strongly, notwithstanding the burden of its struggling mistress, and both were soon in safety on the opposite shore.

On one of the last days of her journey Elizabeth in addition to her other charge, bore her little brother of two years of age sixteen miles upon her back.

At length the toilworn party arrived at their destination in August, 1778. Refugees bereft of home and possessions, the evils of destitution and want, reared their formidable front to menace the happiness of this sorely tried family. Yet, Elizabeth and her sisters poured employment in the families of their more wealthy neighbors, and thereby assisted their parents with the price of the labor of their hands, to retrieve their fallen fortunes. It was while thus employed that Elizabeth met her future husband in the person of a continental soldier, who became some few months later her companion for fifty-two years of wedded felicity.

The subject of this sketch was the mother of thirteen children, four boys and nine girls, most of whom are living. She has lived to see sons occupy honorable stations in the government she had seen in its infancy struggling for independence, and like other mothers of the Revolution, will remain engraved upon the memory as a monument of female patriotism and greatness. It would be well for the girls of the present day to read this sketch and profit by the example of this departed relic of the Revolu-



tion. We are indebted to her son, Hon. John D. Davison, of this village, for many interesting incidents of her life, which we shall publish at some future day. Also to Mrs. Alvin Hunt, to whose able pen we are mostly indebted for this interesting sketch of the deceased.

[The narrative is interesting, but cannot be relied upon for historical accuracy, as is to be expected when it be remembered that it is the recollection of her childhood days by a woman in the extremity of age and who had never afterward lived among the scenes and people of her early frontier home. As narrated to her children the incidents would naturally be magnified by those who transcribe them, from a pardonable desire to graphically portray the difficulties through which she had passed. Such family traditions are always interesting, but must be taken with a grain of allowance. For example, it is highly improbable that any family in those days had "arsenic," nor is it likely that in the preparation for flight the fugitive would have been cool enough to carry a supply of salt for the pet heifer which was to save her life. Another difficulty presents itself as to the names. That of Davison does not appear anywhere in our local histories. Nor does that of Fitchet, though Fitch is a familiar name. The reference to Col. Butler as returning with a force of men, dispersing the Indians and garrisoning Fort Wilkes-Barre, is also a confusion of fact. If any of our readers are in possession of information that will throw light on the families mentioned they will confer a favor by addressing the RECORD.—EDTORA.]

#### In Memory of Harrison Wright.

A most interesting volume has just been issued by the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, the third in the "Proceedings and Publications" of that organization. It is a pamphlet of 128 pages and is a memorial to the late Dr. Harrison Wright, its recording secretary, whose death occurred last year. The book is given an additional value by the insertion of an admirable phototype of Dr. Wright, which is strikingly life-like. About half of the contained matter is taken up with a biographical sketch by George B. Kulp, Esq., the same covering the Wright family and the related families of Cist and Hollenback. A brief review of the literary work of deceased is given by Sheldon Reynolds, who was probably his most intimate confere. Other contents are resolutions submitted to the society by C. Ben Johnson, a poem by D. M. Jones, Esq., proceedings of the Luzerne County Bar, of the Osterhout Free Library and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The volume is from the press of R. Baur & Son.

#### THE HERO OF WYOMING.

Some Incidents in the Life of John Franklin who Took an Oath Upon the Bleeding Form of his Murdered Friend That he Would Never lay Down his Arms Till the Pennamites Were Expelled From Wyoming.

At the last meeting of the Historical Society, Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman, of Shickshinny, read an excellent paper on the early history of lower Luzerne County, the same having been prepared for presentation at the Luzerne Centennial. We take pleasure in submitting a brief synopsis, Mrs. Hartman's sketch covering the events that transpired in the southwestern part of the county prior to its erection in 1786. Mention was made of the land troubles between the Pennsylvania government and the Connecticut settlers. The latter had become distrustful of the honesty of the State authorities by reason of having been imposed upon by laws passed by interested and malicious parties in the Assembly and which had been enforced by tyrants. The Connecticut settlers had possessed and cultivated the land, acquired by purchase from its former owners, the Six Nations, had built homes in the wilderness and endured toil and privation, all because they had full faith in the right of the Connecticut charter to hold possession for them.

Passing over the early troubles, arrests, imprisonments, persecutions, wrongs and revengeful murders perpetrated on the early Yankee settlers by Patterson, Armstrong and others, under pretext of Pennsylvania justice, mercy and truth, Mrs. Hartman proceeded to consider John Franklin. He was a representative Connecticut Yankee, the first white man to settle in the southwestern part of Luzerne County. He located there in the spring of 1775, cleared land, built a home for his young wife and children. Others soon joined him as neighbors. Samuel Trescott (Mrs. Hartman's great grandfather) was surveyor of the land. Col. John Franklin's father, also named John was committee of Huntington appointed by the Susquehanna Company. The senior John Franklin was seldom in Huntington, but his son and namesake was his authorized deputy. About 1775 Nathan Beach and some others settled in Salem. Elijah Austin occupied the land and water power in Shickshinny, and the families of Hunlock, Blanchard and others the lands about the mouth of Hunlock's Creek. The population of the region increased. A saw mill was built at Shickshinny by Elijah Austin, who brought the metal portions from Connecticut on sleds during winter, as the roads were too rough and bridgeless to be traveled with loads at other seasons.

John Franklin, then a young man of 23 (having been born in 1749 in Litchfield, Conn.), was regarded as a leader. He was one of the first 200 settlers who came to Wyoming in the spring of 1770, then in his 20th year. He was probably with Stewart's Rangers when their "Huzza for George the Third" rang loud and clear over the sleeping garrison of Pennamites on that frosty morning in 1770, when, as Dr. Egle relates, the house of Lancaster came to the rescue with the returning Yankees.

John Franklin was a leader in every enterprise, and as a civil justice, military commander, legislator or general counsellor he was known, esteemed, trusted and beloved and might well be acknowledged by all as the hero of Huntington, the hero of Wyoming and one of the heroes of the world.

In 1778 when Wyoming was invaded by the combined horde of Tories and Indians, Franklin was captain of a company of volunteers for Huntington and Salem. Lieut. Stoddard Bowen, of Salem, pressed on with a part of the company and arrived at Forty Fort in time to participate in the battle. He was killed, also Elias and David Bixby (or Bigsby), Levi Hicks and Job Marshall, and perhaps others.

Franklin's detachment arrived too late, exhausted by their long march and loss of sleep and rear. They were appointed to assist in preparing the fort for surrender. Solon Trescott, (Mrs. Hartman's grandfather) his elder brother Samuel, Thomas Williams and some other Huntington men, were held as prisoners, but were paroled by John Butler. Soon after a general exodus of the people took place.

Capt. Franklin's wife died of small pox in Windsor, Bucks Co., Pa., in November following. After taking his motherless children to Connecticut he returned to the desolated valley to assist in defending those in danger and to punish the enemy.

Huntington is proud to claim such a man as the pioneer, leader and friend of her people.

#### Lieutenant William Jones.

The account in the Record of the Masonic burial of Capt. Davis and Lieut. William Jones, who were killed by the Indians near Wyoming, in 1779, has brought out some very interesting information. We are informed by Miss Emily I. Alexander that the stone which now marks their grave was erected by George M. Hollenback and that she remembers distinctly of accompanying her father and Mr. Hollenback to the old burying ground on Market Street and making a search for the original stone. She remembers, though only a child, how the stone looked, she describing it as of red mountain stone and bearing, in addition to the inscrip-

tion, a Masonic symbol. Miss Alexander says that Mr. Hollenback remarked that he was related to Lieut. Jones and would erect a marble slab to replace the original stone, which had become very much defaced.

The dust of these honored dead is now buried in Hollenback Cemetery, not many rods to the north of the entrance and in a triangular lot owned by Lodge 61, A. Y. M., and set apart for these two graves alone. The marble is becoming yellow and as a correspondent suggests, should be replaced by a more imposing monument. That the grave is not neglected is shown by the fact that it is beautified by a thrifty weeping willow, a holly shrub and some arbor vitae bushes, to say nothing of the flags which are placed upon it by loving hands every Decoration Day and which flutter as long as a shred is left by the wind which sweep over the hills.

A conversation with Mr. Edward Welles has elicited the following note:

EDITOR RECORD: This young officer was, I believe, a nephew, certainly a near relative, of Mrs. Eleanor Jones Hollenback, mother of Matthias Hollenback, of Wilkes-Barre, and wife of John Hollenback, of Lebanon, near Jonestown. He was one of the officers in Major Powell's detachment sent on in advance of Sullivan's army, on its way to the Susquehanna in the month of April, 1779; and was one of several men slain in an ambush near Laurel Run. The following is a copy from the original epitaph on his tombstone, now gone into decay; taken from the old brown stone then lying in the Hollenback cemetery, in the month of October, 1868:

In memory of

Capt. J. Davis

of the 11th Penna. Regt.

also

Lieut. William Jones

who were massacred by the savages

on their march to the relief of

the distressed inhabitants of Wyoming

April 23, 1779.

Erected by the Brotherhood

July 25, the same year.

The inscription upon the original stone has been copied in the present one, except that the last two lines are replaced by the words "Erected by a friend."

You will observe that the date given in the extract from the Providence (R. I.) Gazette of Sept. 18, 1779, for the ceremony of reinterment the two officers, Davis and Jones, does not accord with that given on the tombstone, erected at the time, the latter being July 25, and the former July 28. If you have a perpetual calendar, you may find which is the correct date, as the newspaper account gives the day of the week as being

Tuesday. What you want is to find out whether that day of the week fell upon the 25th or the 28th of the month. [There seems to be considerable confusion as to the date. The newspaper item already alluded to says the funeral occurred on Tuesday, the 28th, whereas, Tuesday fell upon the 27th. Gen Stryker's sketch of the Sullivan expedition, gives still another date, July 29, though without specifying the day of the week.—**EDITOR.**]

The present tombstone was erected by the late G.M. Hollenback, Esq., when the original had become much dilapidated. The latter is said to have been buried in the same lot in Hollenback Cemetery, where the remains of Messrs. Davis and Jones were reinterred, as described by your correspondent, W. J.

Ought not a granite monument to be erected over the graves of those two men, in Hollenback Cemetery? w.  
Nov. 20, 1886.

#### An Old Poem on Ireland.

[The Easton papers publish the following lines, written at Berwick by Rev. James Lewers, immediately after the passage in the year 1829 of the Act of "Catholic Emancipation," and now at this interesting period of Ireland's history, reproduced from memory by the writer's brother, Dixon Lewers, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, now a resident of Easton:]

When freedom came down from the skies with  
a smile,  
And flew round in triumph unfettering the  
nations,  
Ah, say, could she pass by the Emerald Isle  
And beam not a glance of her dark desolation?  
The land that contains our Emmett's remains  
Could she leave it forever in darkness and  
chains? [sea,  
No! List to the voice that sounds loud o'er the  
Tis liberty speaks and our country is free.

"Oh, land of the west," cried the spirit of light  
As on Ulster's green mountains at last she descended, [night,  
"Have I left thee to groan beneath slavery's  
Thy tears still unnoticed, thy claims undefended?  
Dear isle that has been in my battles still seen  
With thy bright, flashing sword and thy standard  
of green:  
Have I left thee in bondage to weep o'er the sea?  
Rise! Erin Mavourneen! arise and be free."  
"Can the days of thy Ullin be ever forgot,  
The proud plume of war and love's eye softly  
beaming?  
Or thy Brian the Brave in my battles that  
fought  
Neath the harp woven standard victoriously  
streaming,  
Or that shout round the shore that the ocean  
breeze bore  
On Clontarf when the Norse-man lay stretched in  
his gore,  
Arise! Let the nations the bright record see  
And ask the proud world why thou should'st not  
be free."

#### When Berwick was Founded.

**EDITOR RECORD:** I notice in No. 2, page 38, of the *Historical Record*, the letter of the Hon. Steuben Jenkins in relation to the founding of Berwick, in which he quotes from a letter of Thomas Cooper, giving the date of settlement of Berwick as of the 10th of May, 1787. He closes with the remark: "It would seem to be satisfactory evidence of the time when the town of Berwick was laid out."

The indications are that Berwick was laid out earlier than the date given above. Timothy Pickering, in a letter to Gen. Muhlenburg, bearing date of Philadelphia, April 5, 1787, says:

"That application should be made to Council to appoint Evan Owen a Commissioner to explore, survey and make the best route for the road, and that Jacob Weiss should contract to open it so as to render it fit for passing wagons carrying a ton weight. This proposal I made on this principle—That persons interested in having the shortest and best road cut would be the fittest to be employed to execute the work. Mr. Owen is an intelligent man and (I find on inquiry) a man on whom the public may repose great confidence. He owns a tract of land opposite the mouth of the Nescopeck, which he has laid out into lots for a town, and has no intermediate interest."

The letter is too long to produce here, but enough has been given to show that Berwick was laid out before April 5, 1787, and when we bear in mind that Pickering wrote this in Philadelphia, it is fair to presume from the fame of the town having reached there as early as April 5, 1787, that it must have been laid out at least some months before that date.

C. F. HILL.

HAZLETON, Pa., Dec. 13, 1886.

#### The First Forty of Kingston.

After the treaty at Fort Stanwix, in 1768, had quieted the troubles with the Six Nations, the Susquehanna Company decided, at a meeting held at Hartford Dec. 28, 1768, to settle the much coveted lands at Wyoming. It was determined to lay out five townships, to be settled by the first of February thereafter, the first to have 40 settlers, each of the others to have 50. Each township was to be five miles square. The committee named the first township Kingston. The others were named Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Plymouth and Hanover, in this order. Three full shares in each township were devoted to religion, education and charity. These townships were afterwards called Hanover, Plymouth, Kingston, Wilkes-Barre and Pittston. Upon the arrival of the first 40 from Connecticut, they found the

valley already occupied by representatives of the proprietary government of Pennsylvania, who were authorized to lay out two manors, one on either side of the Susquehanna, the Manor of Stoke and the Manor of Sunbury. They were given leases on tracts of land, were to establish a trading post with the Indians, encourage immigration and expel intruders, the latter term, of course, applying to settlers from Connecticut. When the first 40 arrived they found the Pennsylvanians located at the mouth of Mill Creek, in buildings which had been erected six years before by the Connecticut people whom the Indians had murdered or expelled. Finding the enemy in possession the Connecticut 40, who arrived in February, 1769, constructed a stockade across the river and named it for their number, Forty Fort. A little later it was determined to expel the Pennamites and they accordingly surrounded the block house and demanded a surrender, in the name of Connecticut. Their demand was met with a request for a conference, and the Connecticut men, unsuspecting of treachery sent Messrs. Tripp, Elderkin and Follett into the blockhouse. They were immediately seized and taken to the Easton jail, their 37 associates accompanying of their own accord. They were immediately bailed out, returned to Wyoming and inaugurated the famous "Pennamite and Yankee War," which continued for thirty years, interrupted in part only by the Revolutionary War. Mr. Jenkins is authority for the statement that the Pennamites undoubtedly instigated the attack on Wroming to clean out the settlers and get possession of the lands.

The following list of the first 40 settlers is from the MSS. collection of Hon. Steuben Jenkins of Wyoming:

A list of the Proprietors or first Forty of Kingston:

Benjamin Shumaker,	Isaac Tripp,
Stephen Gardner,	Benjamin Follet,
John Jenkins,	Zebulon Butler,
Vine Elderkin,	Thomas Dyer,
William Buck,	Nathaniel Wales,
	Committee.
Andrew Metcalf,	Samuel Gaylord,
Simeon Draper,	Joseph Frink,
Reuben Davis,	Stephen Harding,
Asahel Atherton,	Stephen Jenkins,
Joshua Hall,	Ezra Belding,
Richard Brockway,	Timothy Smith,
Timothy Pierce,	Thomas Bennett,
Jonathan Dean,	Elijah Shoemaker,
John Comstock,	Peter Harris,
Theophilus Westover,	Parthal Terry,
Silas Bingham,	Elijah Buck,
Oliver Smith,	Nathan Denison,
Cyprian Lathrop.	

On Vine Elderkin's right, accepted Isaac Warner.

On Joshua Hall's right, accepted John Perkins.

On Peter Harris' right, accepted Elijah Harris.

On Nathan Walsworth's right, accepted Joseph Walter.

On Allen Wightman's right, accepted Douglass Woodworth.

On Cyprian Lathrop's right, accepted Palmer Jenkins.

On Stephen Harding's right, accepted Israel Jones.

On Henry Dow Tripp's.

Timothy Peirce, occupied by John Peirce. Asahel Atherton, accepted James Atherton.

Samuel Gaylord, accepted Timothy Gaylord.

The above is a true list or roll of the Forty first settlers on the West Side of the Easternmost Branch of Susquehanna River as I was ordered by the Committee to Return ye same to Maj. Dorkee, President at Wilkes-Barry. Test.

ANDREW METCALF, clerk to said forty.

June ye 28, 1770.

[Note by S. J.: The names of Nathan Walsworth, Allen Wightman, Elias Roberts, Zerrubbable Jerroms, Henry Dow Tripp were erased by two lines being drawn across them. Their names, so far as they appear again, are given above.]

Forty-five years ago the old stage driven by Alex. and George Kenner, ran up one day from Wilkes-Barre to Carbondale and down the next, carrying at no time more than half a dozen passengers. Now six first-class passenger trains run daily between Scranton and Carbondale well filled. What a change! —*Scranton Republican*.

That recalls a remark made by Hon. Victor E. Piollet in a speech at the recent opening of the Lehigh Valley RR. Co.'s Voeburg Tunnel. He said that when Asa Packer was projecting the road the objection was made that there was a canal which was sufficient to carry all the coal from the Wyoming Valley and a stage line from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia which was ample to carry all the passengers who wanted to go—therefore what hope could there be that an expensive thing like a railroad could be maintained! To-day the Lehigh Valley has 19 passenger trains daily leaving its magnificent station in Wilkes-Barre, to say nothing of the freight and coal trains.

In 1782, Mary Pritchard was fined five shillings for going away from her residence unnecessarily on the Sabbath day.

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman Reads a Paper on Lower Luzerne—A Map of Sullivan's Campaign Presented—Other Valuable Donations.

The quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, was held December 10, Judge Dana presiding, and the following ladies and gentlemen, among others, being in attendance:

Judge Loop, C. Parsons, O. A. Parsons, S. Reynolds, O. C. Hillard, Hon. C. D. and Mrs. Foster, Miss Emily Alexander, Miss McOlintock, M. H. Post, Dr. and Mrs. Ingham, G. H. Butler, Charles J. Long, Frank Phelps, R. Sharpe, W. S. Monroe, Rev. H. G. Miller, G. R. Bedford, Hon. J. R. Wright, John Reichard, Edward Welles, Miss Geraldine Culver, J. E. Patterson, C. Morgan, Jr., W. H. and Mrs. Brown, F. C. Johnson.

Secretary J. Ridgway Wright read the minutes as also from the Record the account of the adjourned meeting of the society held in the court house on the occasion of the celebration of the centennial of Luzerne County.

A long list of contributions were acknowledged, among them the following:

Cabinet—Indian implements, thong dresser, hammer stone, pitted stone, Sheldon Reynolds; arrow and spear points, H. C. Wilson, Mt. Vernon, O.; Trinidad asphalt, Dr. C. F. Ingham; Brinton Coxe, old prints.

Library—Rev. C. B. Bradee, Lyman H. Lowe, Hon. J. A. Scranton, Commissioners of State Survey, American Museum of Natural History, O. J. Hoadley, F. C. Johnson, Col. Reynolds, Hon. E. L. Dana, Essex Institute, American Geographical Society, New Jersey Historical Society, Record exchanges containing historical articles, John S. McGroarty, A. E. Foote, Laurence Francis Flick, Ed. Ruch, H. H. Harvey, Kansas Historical Society, American Catholic Historical Society, Newport Historical Society, Wm. J. Buck, Glasgow Archaeological Society, Australian Museum, E. F. Duren, Smithsonian Institution, Canadian Institute, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, G. B. Kulp, Public Opinion, Science, Will S. Monroe, Rhode Island Historical Society, Library Bureau, W. P. Ryman, W. P. Miner, Royal Academy of History Belles Lettres and Antiquity, Sweden, and the several government publications, of which the society's library is a depository.

Among the publications of interest was a catalogue of autographs belonging to estate of the late Lewis J. Cist, Vol. 13 of the Colonial Records of Connecticut, pamphlet on Indian methods of arrow release, "Huguenots on the Hackensack," description of the Frances Slocum relics, Buck's "History of the Indian Walk," *Historical Record*,

"Jenkins Family of Rhode Island," pamphlet on cannibalism among American Indians (by Gen. U. W. Darling, Utica, N. Y.), a newspaper published by the Ojibway Indians.

The contributions of Brinton Coxe, Esq., president of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, include the following: Facsimile of an authentic silhouette of Washington, life size; original political caricature published in 1774, relating to throwing the tea overboard in Boston harbor; facsimile of the first royal proclamation relating to Pennsylvania, April 2, 1681; an old broadside of 1788: "observations by the committee of the landholders on the utility and importance of the roads proposed to be laid open in Northampton and Luzerne," from the papers of Tench Coxe, one of the Philadelphia committee.

Judge Dana spoke of a brief correspondence with Gen. John S. Clarke, of Auburn, N. Y., relation to the old Sullivan Road. Gen. Clarke informed the society of some interesting details of the route in the Wyoming region, and offered to furnish a copy of a pamphlet on the subject at a slight expense. Gen. Clarke referred also to the death of Jones and Davis on the road near Laurel Run. His letter was accompanied by a facsimile map of the route of Gen. Sullivan's army from Easton to a point 20 miles above Wilkes-Barre, Buttermilk Falls. The map was made by one of Sullivan's officers, Lieut. Lodge, and gives considerable detail as to streams, mountains, settlements, etc. It is copied from the archives of the New York Historical Society and is one of a series of five maps covering the entire route of the Sullivan expedition. They will be reproduced by the State of New York and 5,000 copies printed to accompany the history of the Sullivan campaign now being prepared in minute detail at the expense of the Commonwealth of New York.

The following gentlemen were elected to membership: Resident Joseph D. Coons, Edwin Shortz, Rev. W. F. Watkins, Jr. Corresponding, Col. J. A. Price, W. A. Wilcox, Scranton; Dr. D. G. Brinton, Wm. A. Darlington, Philadelphia; Gen. C. W. Darling, Utica, N. Y.; Dr. Walter J. Hoffman, Washington, D. C.

At this point Mrs. Hartman read an admirable paper on the Huntington Valley portion of Luzerne County. It was a patriotic tribute to John Franklin, who figured so prominently in Wyoming history, of which we give a synopsis on page 67 of this issue. Mrs. Hartman also gave some statistics as to the agricultural and other resources of Huntington, together with an excellent poem of her own composition. Upon taking her seat Mrs. Hartman was warmly applauded and a vote of thanks passed.

Dr. Ingham offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to consult (in conjunction with the trustees) with the trustees of the proposed Osterhout building, with reference to the quarters that are intended to be provided in that building for the Historical Society. The chair appointed Calvin Parsons, Edward Welles and William P. Miner.

Judge Dana, as meteorologist of the city, submitted a detailed report for the last three months. In September the average temperature was 65, as compared with 60 in 1885 and 66.7 in 1886. The rain fall was 4.48 inches, as compared with 1.24 inches in 1885 and 1.66 inches in 1884.

October, average temperature 52, 50 in 1885 and 53.5 in 1884. Rain fall 2.96 inches in 1886, 4.45 in 1885 and 3.44 in 1884.

November, average temperature 35, 40 in 1885 and 35½ in 1884. Rain fall 5.84 inches in 1886, 5.22 in 1885 and 3.28 in 1884.

These figures show the present year (Sept., Oct. and Nov.) to have been much wetter than its two predecessors, the figures being 13.28 inches in 1886, 10.91 in 1885 and 8.38 in 1884.

Adjournment was than had until the annual meeting in February. Many of the visitors remained and inspected the map of the Sullivan Road and the several contributions.

#### Early Days in Wayne County.

A new history of Wayne County is being published. The *Honesdale Herald* gives some gleanings therefrom, a few of which we copy as being of local interest:

Daniel Skinner and others were the pioneer white settlers in Wayne County, settling at Cochecton in 1757.

The first road opened through Wayne County was cut 1762 by the Connecticut settlers going to Wyoming. The second was the old North and South road, extending through our western townships from Monroe County to the north line of the State. The former was opened in 1762 and the latter in 1788.

Dr. Lewis Collins, of Cherry Ridge, was Wayne's first resident physician. He was born in Connecticut in 1753 and died at Cherry Ridge in 1818.

Ebenezer Kingsbury, Jr., from 1833 to 1840 proprietor of the *Wayne County Herald*, was State Senator from 1838 to 1842; Howkin B. Beardslee, another of its editors, was Senator from 1835 to 1838. Thomas J. Hubbell, another editor, and H. B. Beardslee were both members of the Legislature; and Warren J. Woodward, still another, was subsequently a Judge of the Supreme Court.

#### Col. Sam. Hunter on the Situation.

[The writer of the following letter was Col. Samuel Hunter of Northumberland County, and the reference to the Wyoming people induces me to send it forward for the *HISTORICAL RECORD*. Col. Hunter was a notable man. He resided on the site of Fort Augusta (Sunbury) which he owned; was justice of the peace, Member of Assembly prior to the Revolution, colonel of one of the Northumberland County associated battalions, and county lieutenant during the trying days of the struggle for independence. He died in 1784. The letter was to "Mr. Owen Biddle, Merchant, Philadelphia." w. h. e.]

Fort Augusta, 16th October 1775

Sir: As I came to Lancaster I was informed the situation our County was in for want of Ammunition, which made me apply to the Committee of Lancaster County for three Hundred w't of Gun Powder and nine Hundred w't of Lead, and so far prevail'd on them to let me have the above Quantity, by Giving them an Order on the Committee of Safety for the Province, to allow them so much out of the Quantity allow'd for the County Northumberland. What induces me to give such an Order was what you told me that evening I left Town, that you thought Our County should have some Ammunition, and I think there is no time we stand more in need of the like, when our Properties is invaded by a different Colony, Especially at these times of General Calamity. When we should unite as one in the General cause of liberty.

I am S'r

your most Obed't Humble Serv't

To Owen Biddle.

SAM'L HUNTER

#### The Historical Record.

In a letter from Caleb E. Wright, Esq., Doylestown, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, that gentleman writes: "I like your monthly. Such a publication was needed and should have been started at an earlier date. Send me all the numbers as I desire to bind them."

Mr. C. F. Hill writes from Hazleton: "Send me Nos. 1 and 2, as I intend to preserve and bind them, and I want the work complete. I hope you will give the *Historical Record* your best attention and push it. There is a world of unpublished history of the Revolutionary frontier of Pennsylvania which included the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna River, and every citizen in this terribly scourged frontier is interested in its early history, much of which now lives only in tradition. I am preparing some history for the *RECORD*, much of which has never appeared in print and will forward as soon as I can verify certain matters as to names and dates."

**Indian Name of Hunlock's Creek.**

The following recently discovered scrap of history which has come into my hands as secretary of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, is thought to be worthy of a place in the Record:

"Whereas, Jonathan Hunlock, one of ye proprietors of ye Susquehanna Purchase, has been here with a complaint, and says he is a Proprietor in ye Susquehanna Purchase, and he made a pitch in said purchase at a place called by ye name of *Mossacota*, down ye river, about three miles from *Nanticook falls*, down ye river, and on ye west side of ye East Branch of ye Susquehanna, etc."

The formal parts of this ancient document, dated April 5, 1774, which confirms the said Jonathan Hunlock in the possession of his "pitch," and is signed by a committee of settlers, we omit. From the foregoing it appears that the Indian name of the stream now called Hunlock's Creek, was *Mossacota*. This is a euphonious and pretty name, and its restoration as the name of that whirling, leaping, dashing mountain tributary would be approved by all lovers of the beautiful in nomenclature as well as in more solid matter.

W. J.

**The Texas Domain.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** History to be of any real value should be correct in details. I have just been reading an article in No. 3 of your interesting collection of historical matter, entitled "How we acquired our Domain." Among other things, the article in dealing with the subject of the Texas domain, says that after the admission of that State into the Union, "Texas was bankrupt, and for the public lands we got from her, sixteen millions' dollars of her debts were paid by this country."

This is a mistake. The United States Government did not acquire one acre of land by way of dowry, when we received the young "Lone Star" Republic into the sisterhood of States. The sixteen million dollars incumbrance was assumed by the general government, but Texas still held all her vast domain from the rich cotton plantations on the lower Brazos and Colorado to the Cross Timbers and Great Buffalo range on the west to Rio Grande del Norte. The public lands of Texas were all sold by the State and not by the United States, and the proceeds of such sales went into the State Treasury, what little there may have been left after paying expenses of issuing land scrip which was sold in great measure to speculators and land-grabbers as low as twenty cents an acre.

**HAZLETON'S CENTENNIAL.**

**A Short History of Things Pertaining to the Location of Roads and Other Interesting Facts.**

The Hazleton *Sentinel* prints the following interesting communication, which we presume is from the pen of Charles F. Hill:

Hazleton has a Centennial on hand which it is in duty bound to observe. Less than one hundred years ago Hazleton and its surroundings was a howling wilderness with nothing but a few Indian paths through its solitary wilds. The paths originally led from the Lehigh Gap across this mountain to the mouth of the Nescopeck, a branch from this Nescopeck path from about Beaver Meadow led to the Wyoming region. The first organized effort to break through this wilderness was an act of assembly dated March 29, 1787, which resulted in opening the first turnpike road, which was done by Evan Owen, the founder of the town of Berwick. The road was strongly advocated by Timothy Pickering, Esq., and by Gen. Muhlenburg, and also by the Philadelphia Co. for promoting manufactures and the useful arts in the town Berwick, upon the Susquehanna, as you will see by the following communication of company named:

*To the Honorable Committee of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appointed for the special purpose of considering what future roads may be Necessary to be Opened, etc., in said Commonwealth.*

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR:**

The subscribers beg leave to mention to you the propriety of opening a road from or near Leonard Balliard's house in Mahanoy Valley, about 71 miles from Philadelphia into the road directed to be opened by an Act of the Honorable the Legislature, passed the 29th day of March, 1783, which leads to the falls of the Nescopeck in the river Susquehanna. The advantages attending this proposed road would be very considerable to the inhabitants settled in the counties of Northumberland and Luzerne in particular, but to the State in general, many of whom have a circuitous route of two hundred miles, who would then have no more than half that distance to bring their produce to this market, which undoubtedly would be mutually advantageous to the city and several of the counties. The said road would secure to a respectable part of the State the advantages of the Philadelphia market with considerable convenience. The distance necessary to be opened would be about 18 or 20 miles, and at present the views of the legislature in the opening of the

Nescopeck road must be frustrated unless this prayer should be granted, and was designed to have been carried to the Water Navigation of the river Lehi, but as the commissioner who was appointed in pursuance of the said Act had it then not in his power to open it to the said communication, the views of the legislature in consequence are rendered in some means abortive, or at least are not attended with advantages thereby designed. This addition thereto your petitioners humbly conceive would perfect the intentions which the wisdom of the honorable legislature meant to carry into effect. We take the liberty of mentioning that there is a company established in this plan nominated "The Philadelphia Company for Promoting Manufacturers and the useful Arts in the Town of Berwick upon the Susquehanna," the view of which are to promote the intercourse of a weighty part of the State which they trust will be advantageous thereto and disadvantageous to none. We therefore wish that you will so far coincide with this statement of the important subject as to report to council the propriety of opening this road, and your petitioners as in duty bound will pray, etc.

Signed by order and on behalf of the aforesaid company, by

BENJ'N SAY, President.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4, 1788.

Timothy Pickering, in a letter bearing the date Philadelphia, April 5, and 7, 1788, to General Muhlenburg, strongly advocates the building of this road for the £150 granted by the legislature for the purpose. The centennial for the passage of this act falls upon Saturday, the 29th day of March next. There is a strong feeling existing to observe the day, and the writer is assured that many historical papers will be produced and read, and many ancient documents and relics of the time brought out. Hazleton is the central point on the road, and it is assured that the Lehigh & Susquehanna Co. will throw open their gate during the entire observance of the centennial. It is high time to move in the matter. A large delegation from Philadelphia will be invited as well as from all the leading towns in the country. The event is certainly an important one, and the time a very opportune one to look back over the past history of the region, and compare it with the present.

NESCOPECK.

Hazleton, Dec. 24, 1886.

The Germantown *Telegraph* for Nov. 24, contains an article on Rev. Peter Keyser, a pioneer preacher in Germantown, born 1766. The article is by Rev. S. F. Hotchiss.

#### RECENT DEATHS.

SARAH GORE WOOD.

This estimable lady, the widow of John B. Wood, died in Wilkes-Barre Dec. 21, 1886, aged 81 years.

Mrs. Wood's maiden name was Sarah Gore, and she was the youngest of five children of John Gore. Her father was of the fifth generation of descent from John Gore, who emigrated from England to America in 1634, settling in Massachusetts.

She was a niece of the younger Obadiah Gore, who figured conspicuously and honorably in the early Wyoming history. Obadiah Gore was a member of the first company of Connecticut adventurers who vainly attempted to settle Wyoming Valley in 1762 and was in the company of 200 who came again seven years later. His name is intimately connected with the use of anthracite coal, he and his father, Obadiah, using it for blacksmithing in Wilkes-Barre as early as 1760, nearly forty years before Jesse Fell discovered that it could be used as fuel in stoves.

The Gore family was severely stricken by the Wyoming massacre. Eight members went into the fight and when the sun went down upon that bloody field five were killed and one was wounded. The brothers Silas, Asa and George were slain, as also the husbands of two of the sisters. The three brothers who escaped—Obadiah, Daniel and Samuel—subsequently enlisted in the Continental army and served throughout the war, Obadiah as a lieutenant.

The youngest brother (father of the late Mrs. Wood) was only 14 years of age and was among the fugitives from the slaughter. Returning, he settled in Kingston married Elizabeth, daughter of Gen. Wm. Ross, and died at the age of 73.

Obadiah Gore, as justice of the peace, united in wedlock, in 1788, Matthias Hollenback and Miss Sarah Hibbard. He was a representative from Westmoreland to the Connecticut Assembly and later he was a representative in the Pennsylvania Assembly. He took an aggressive part in the Penamite wars, and when the Wyoming settlers in 1784, believing that they were oppressed by the Decree of Trenton in favor of the Pennsylvania claimants, sought a refuge in the domain of New York (an account of the proposed exodus being first made public at the recent celebration of the Luzerne Centennial), Judge Gore was selected as spokesman for the settlers, they having united in a petition to the New York Assembly for a tract of land on which to settle. Mr. Gore bore the petition on horseback to Albany, succeeded in getting the matter to a favorable issue and returned home to Wyoming by the same lonely route through the wilderness.



Mrs. Wood, who was born in 1805 and died Dec. 21, 1888, married John B. Wood, and a sister married Moses Wood. She is survived by a daughter, Martha, wife of Major John Espy, of St. Paul, Minn.; Elizabeth, wife of Rev. A. J. VanCleft, of Norwich, N. Y.; and Maria E., wife of W. B. Mitchell, of this city and by two sons, John G. and George B.

MARTIN CORYELL.

A telegram to the RECORD from Sylvanus Ayres, Jr., brings the brief announcement that Martin Coryell died Tuesday, Nov. 30, at Lambertville, N. J.

Mr. Coryell was for several years a resident of this city, actively engaged in developing the resources of Wyoming Valley, and his family have a host of friends here who will be pained to hear of his demise. Death was due to a pulmonary trouble, the fatal termination having been hastened by hemorrhages. Deceased was born in New Hope, Bucks Co., Pa., 71 years ago, and was the son of Lewis Coryell, who was a prominent Democrat in his day and a warm friend of Calhoun and other public men of National reputation. Mr. Coryell was a civil and mining engineer by profession and was identified with numerous important enterprises in that line. He was prominent in the deliberations of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, of which he was a valued member. He was a regular attendant upon its annual gatherings, in various sections of the country and was a contributor to its fund of scientific papers. Mr. Coryell came to Wilkes-Barre during the early part of the war having previously been engaged in professional duties in Hazleton, where he was engaged in coal mining in partnership with Ario Pardee. After coming here he was instrumental in developing coal lands below Wilkes-Barre and in organizing the Warrior Run Mining Co., an organization still in existence with Calvin Parsons as president and operated by A. J. Davis & Co. Some ten years ago he determined to retire from active business and selling the handsome residence built by him at 15 North River Street, he removed with his family to Lambertville, N. J., which had been the home of the Coryells for several generations. There he bought a controlling interest in the water works, enlarged them and the same have continued under his management as president, and that of his son Torbert as superintendent.

Mr. Coryell's training as an engineer naturally brought him in contact with the subterranean world and he was recognized as a skilled and learned geologist. This fact, together with his natural fondness for matters of an antiquarian character, made him an invaluable member of the Wyoming

Historical and Geological Society of this city, of which he was an active member during his residence here, and a corresponding member ever since.

Mr. Coryell was the assistant engineer in the construction of the Belvidere Delaware RR., of which an ex-superintendent is J. A. Anderson, who married a sister of Mrs. Coryell, and he was interested in copper mining on Lake Superior.

He was married in 1842 to Myra Coryell, who survives him, as also two daughters and a son: Alice, married a Swiss merchant, Elie Erismann, their home being in Geneva, Switzerland. Emma L., married Sylvanus Ayres, Jr., formerly of this city, now doing business in New York, their home being in Lambertville, as is that of the son, Torbert.

He had three brothers and two sisters. Elias was educated at West Point and died young. Miers was for some years in business in China. The third brother, Ingham, is dead, as is a sister Rebecca. Another sister, Ellen, was twice married, first to a Mr. Torbert and then to the late Dr. Samuel Lilly, of Lambertville.

Mr. Coryell was of a retiring disposition, closely wrapped up in whatever work he had in hand, but a most genial companion when the cares of business were thrown aside. Possessing a fund of information on all general subjects, well read in the topics of the day, always bright and cheerful, fond of entertaining family friends, the Coryell home was ever the embodiment of genial hospitality, as many Wilkes-Barreans can attest.

MRS. SARAH E. ATHERTON.

The entire city was shocked Nov. 30 to hear of the death of Mrs. Sarah E. Atherton. It was known only to the most intimate friends of Mrs. Atherton that she was not in her usual health, and her death was totally unexpected even by them.

Mrs. Sarah E. Atherton was born October 19, 1823, the daughter of John Perkins, a well known resident of Wyoming whose wife was Miss Eunice Miller, and whose grandfather was a notable member of the massacred band of 1778. Mr. Perkins had six children, five daughters and one son, Mrs. Atherton being the oldest. Four of the family still live, David Perkins, who resides at the old homestead in Wyoming, Mrs. Reuben Henry, of Jersey City, Mrs. E. A. Coray, of Exeter, and Mrs. Robert Black, of Scranton. Thomas F. Atherton married Miss Sarah E. Perkins in 1841, leaving her a widow in April, 1870. They had no children.

Mr. Atherton was one of the leading and wealthiest residents of Wilkes-Barre in his later years, a man widely popular and notable for his generous sympathies. He made a large fortune as owner of a country

store at Wyoming and as one of the first stockholders of the D. L. & W. R.R. when that line was first projected. He was the founder and first president of the Second National Bank, and a founder of the Vulcan Iron Works. He had scarcely finished his mansion on West River Street when death removed him in 1870. Mr. Atherton was the half brother of Mrs. Charles A. Miner, and the uncle of Thomas Henry Atherton, Esq. Miss Hattie Atherton, well known in Wilkes-Barre social and musical circles, is his niece. The handsome West River Street estate of Mr. Atherton, by a clause in his will, goes to his niece and nephew, in the ratio of one portion to the former and two to the latter.

#### Historical Notes.

The Doylestown *Democrat* of Dec. 7, 1886, contains an article on New Britain Homesteads,—Old Dunlap Farm, Warrington—and The Larzeleres.

W. H. H. Davis, editor of the Doylestown *Democrat*, cautions the public against a so-called "History of Bucks County," offered by A. Warner & Co., he claiming it to be an infringement on his copyright, which has 10 years to run.

The pamphlet written not long ago by Dr. James J. Levick, of Philadelphia, on the early physicians of that city met with a most favorable reception all over the country. It has been pleasantly mentioned by many leading journals in all sections.

Rev. John W. Sanborn, '73, of Albion, N. Y., read a very interesting paper before the Anthropological section of the A. A. S. on the "Iroquois League." Being himself by adoption a member of the Seneca Nation and a chief among them, the paper was all the more valuable as coming from inside authority. Mr. Sanborn has done some valuable classical work, and is now about to publish a hymn book in the Seneca dialect.—*College Argus*. (Wesleyan.)

The November issue of *Wide Awake*, (D. Lothrop & Co., Boston) contained an elaborately illustrated article on the Princess Pocahontas and her husband, John Rolfe. Among the others is a full page portrait of Pocahontas and her little son, Thomas Wolfe. The article maintains the truth of the saving of Capt. John Smith's life by Pocahontas. The article is made valuable by fac similes of portraits of both these historic personages, taken during their life time.

The Montrose *Republican* of Dec. 6 has an interesting letter descriptive of a trip through the Mohawk Valley and the historic events which occurred there. The writer, "J. C. B." does not believe that Brant was at the Wyoming massacre, but accepts the view that he was engaged in raids to the north-

ward. He pronounces Col. John Butler, Joseph Brant, and Walter Butler, "a diabolical trio whose footsteps, wherever they went, whether conjointly or separately, were red with the blood of innocence and helplessness."

Our domestic fowl sometimes have singularly voracious appetites. Pearce's "Annals of Luzerne" mentions the killing of a duck in Wilkes-Barre, in 1850, (by H. C. Wilson, we believe,) which had in its gizzard an awl with a handle three inches long. The West Chester *Local News* has been shown the contents of a chicken's gizzard that had been killed there, among which were a few white flint stones and 40 brass shells of .22 calibre that had been exploded in firing at a mark. The shells had been much worn by the action of the gizzard upon them and the greater portion had a piece of flint in them where the bullet had been and the brass partly closed over them by the milling process they had undergone, and from their appearance they must have been in the gizzard for some time. They had not in the least affected the health of the chicken.

#### The Great Flood of 1841.

The Allentown *News* says: "The death recently at Rockport, Carbon Co., of Adam Beers, aged 77 years, recalls a sad incident in the life of that man. In 1841, the year of the big freshet, he and his family tended lock at the Turn Hole, above Mauch Chunk. The freshet occurred in January of that year and Mr. Beers' three eldest children, William, aged 8; George, 5, and Eliza, aged 3 years, lost their lives by drowning. Two of the bodies were never recovered. Mrs. Beers with her youngest child, a boy of about five months, in her arms, also had a narrow escape from a similar fate. In commemoration of the boy's miraculous escape from drowning he was fittingly named Moses. He is now a practicing physician, very prominent in his profession, in New-comerstown, O."

#### Edited and Printed by Indians.

The Historical Society is in receipt of nearly a year's numbers of a Canadian journal published at Hagersville, Ont., called *The Indian*, devoted to the aborigines of North America and especially to the Indians of Canada. The editor is Chief Kah-ke wa-quo-na-by, or in English Dr. P. E. Jones. Among the contained matter is a biographical sketch of the famous Mohawk chief Brant. The author disclaims Brant's responsibility for the Cherry Valley atrocities, and no mention is made of the Wyoming slaughter. The journal is a highly interesting one from an ethnological standpoint and is edited with genuine ability. It contains a few articles in Ojibwa each week.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1887.

Nos. 5-6.

## PIONEER PRIVATIONS.

**The Hardships of a Connecticut Family Who Came to Wyoming in 1778, as Told by one of the Sufferers—Sickness and Death in Transit Save Them From the Massacre.**

The narrative of Mrs. Lydia (Hurlbut) Tiffany, daughter of (Deacon) John Hurlbut, of Hanover, Luzerne County, Pa. It was dictated to her grandson, Myron Hurlbut, of Arkport, N. Y., in 1855, she being then eighty years old. She was born in Groton, Connecticut, July 10, 1775, and came with her father's family to Hanover in the early spring of 1779. She married John Tiffany in Hanover in 1798 and removed to Arkport, where she deceased. She says: "John Hurlbut, my grandfather, settled in Groton, Connecticut. My grandmother's name was Stoddard. I think she was living when we moved from Groton to Wyoming. My mother, Abigail Avery, was born on the 1st of April (old style) 1735, and died in Pittston (formerly called Lackawanna) Luzerne County, Pa., Nov. 29, 1805. Father started to remove from Groton to Wyoming in the spring of 1778, probably very late in the spring, or early in June. They moved with two teams for carrying household furniture, one a wagon drawn by horses and the other a cart drawn by oxen. Father, mother and my two sisters rode horse-back. Sister Catharine carried me most of the way on the horse with her. We took along cattle, hogs and sheep. I think we crossed the Hudson River at Newburg. Just after crossing the Delaware River father was taken with the prevailing camp distemper, and there father and mother remained to recruit, while the caravan moved slowly forward under the direction of my brother John. My sister Abigail was soon taken with the same disorder, which she endured with great fortitude, though only six years old. She died, away from her parents, at Lackawaxen. John went back to inform them, and mother knew from his looks that something dreadful had happened. She would not permit him to tell what it was until after she had had a season of prayer in her closet, and thus was prepared to hear of the death of her child with composure.

"These misfortunes saved them from the greater misfortune of being in a situation to be massacred at Wyoming on the 3d of July, 1778. My brother Christopher had come (from Wyoming) to Lackawaxen to meet them, and thus he also was providentially absent from the massacre.

"Father turned aside to Shawangone in the State of New York, where he carried on a farm for two years, (probably less) and then moved to Wyoming. Father bought eight hundred acres of land at Hanover, three miles above Nanticoke Falls. He built his first house of logs on the north bank of a creek, on the west side of the main road, perhaps a quarter of a mile from the Susquehanna River. There was an alarm of Indians shortly after we moved there,—within one or two years. We fled in consequence from our dwelling and the Indians burned it. Brother John built a log house on the site of the old one, that, I think, is now standing. What furniture could not be removed was concealed. The large mirror and the pewter dishes were buried. For greater safety we had moved up to the Stewart place, near the lower end of Careytown, where there was a blockhouse and some soldiers. There father sickened and died. As there was no burying ground in the neighborhood he was, at his request, buried on his own farm. The grave has since been plowed over and its exact location entirely lost. He was buried directly back of, that is west of, the house that was burned, on the same bench of land, and, say ten rods from the place where the land begins to descend to the flats, and beyond the garden.

"My brother, John and Christopher were elders in the church, (probably at Wilkes-Barre.)"

At the time this was written, 1855, the house built by her brother John had been torn down more than twenty years. Her father had bought the farm of John Hollenback in 1777, built and occupied the house in the early spring of 1779, and in April of the same year was chosen member of the Connecticut Assembly, together with Col. Nathan Denison, to meet in Hartford in May. The Assembly met twice a year, and he was sent there four times before his death in March, 1782. He was born in 1730. The parentheses are mine.

H. B. PLUMB.

## A FAMILY OF PREACHERS.

A Clipping From a Western Paper That Suggests Some Interesting Data as to a Branch of the Bowman Family.

[Sharon Springs (Kan.) Times.]

Mrs. Susan B. Bowman, mother of Mrs. McMichael, landlady of the Sharon Springs Hotel, of this town, is now in her 88th year, and is quite smart for a woman of her age. Her father, Thomas Dodson, settled near Shicksbunny, Luzerne County, Pa., about 120 years ago, in the then howling wilderness and among wild animals and savage Indians. Her grandmother was carried off by the Indians and was kept by them some four years along the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. Her folks found out where she was, and with a large posse of armed men, one dark night, stole in among the wigwams and captured her after some severe fighting. She had been among the Indians so long that she had become accustomed to their ways and could handle the bow and arrow with accuracy; but on her return home was overjoyed to be on the little side-hill farm, instead of the small wigwam among the bloody savages. She said she never expected to see her parents again. Mrs. Bowman's father's house in Luzerne County, Pa., was burned twice by the Indians in mid-day. They saw the Indians coming, and heard the sounds of their war whoops, and fled, her mother carrying her in her arms many miles. Mrs. Bowman has all of her faculties except being a little hard of hearing, but she reads every day without glasses. She has been a true, consistent member of the M. E. Church for more than 70 years, and is an aunt to Bishop Bowman, of St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Bowman is the mother of nine children and has outlived all of them but two, Tipstaff Charles M. Bowman, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Mrs. McMichael, of Sharon Springs, Kan.

[The lady mentioned was Miss Susan Dodson, of Town Hill, Luzerne Co., Pa., and her husband (whose death occurred at Rock Island, Ill., in 1871) was George Bowman. The latter was one of 10 children of Rev. Thomas Bowman. The latter was born in 1760, in Bucks County, Pa. Married Mary Freas, 1782. Moved to Briar Creek, Columbia Co., in 1798. He was a local preacher in the M. E. Church, and in 1807, together with his brother Christopher, was ordained a deacon by Bishop Aebury at Forty Fort. He was a powerful preacher and traveled on horseback up and down the Susquehanna for many years. He died in 1823 at Briar Creek. Thomas Bowman had 10 children:

Christopher, Jr., b. 1783, d. 1850.

Henry, b. 1785, d. 1805.

John, b. 1786, d. 1843.

Jesse, b. 1788, d. 1880.

Sarah, b. 1790, m. Samuel Millard, d. about 1830.

Wesley, b. 1793.

George, b. 1795, d. 1871.

Sophia, b. 1797, m. Judge Gearhart, d. 1880.

Susan, b. 1799, m. Rev. Shadrach B. Laycock, d. 1875.

Thomas, b. 1803, d. 1808.

Of these, John, who died near Berwick in 1843, was the father of Rev. Thomas Bowman, who rose to distinction in the Methodist Church, being made a bishop in 1872, a relation which he still holds.

Jesse was the father of our former townsman, Caleb Franklin Bowman, Esq., whose death occurred in Wilkes-Barre in 1873. The latter's widow, born Isabella Tallman, is still a resident of our city. Caleb's brother, Gen. Samuel Millard Bowman, attained distinction in the United States Army, and died of a paralytic affection in June, 1885, in Kansas City, at the age of 70.

Within the last few weeks the same affection which caused the death of Gen. Samuel M. Bowman and C. F. Bowman, has prostrated another brother, John Wesley Bowman, at his home in Nanticoke, his right side being paralyzed. Mr. Bowman is the ninth child and the seventh son of Jesse Bowman. He was born in 1825 and by vocation is a farmer. In 1872 he married Mary Victoria Hughes, of Tamaqua.

For most of the data used above we are under obligation to the handsome volume entitled "The Bowman Family, a Historical and Memorial Volume, from the earliest traditions to the present time." Published in 1896 at Harrisburg, for private circulation. It is from the pen of Rev. Shadrach Laycock Bowman, professor of systematic theology in De Pauw University, Ind., and Rev. Jesse Bowman Young, of Harrisburg. It is a volume of 258 pages, elaborately illustrated with phototypes. Among the portraits are those of the late C. F. Bowman and his widow. It is a valuable contribution to local history and to the history of Methodism.—*EDITOR.*]

At its last annual meeting the American Historical Society adopted a recommendation in favor of a due observance in 1892 of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. Their memorial was referred to a committee of Congress, which has reported in favor of the commemoration of the event by an international exhibition of the industries and products of all nations. The report of the committee recommends a joint committee of the Senate and House to prepare and report a suitable bill.

**THE WYOMING BLUES.**

Some of the Rules of that Ancient Military Company and a Call for an Election of Officers.

One of Wilkes-Barre's earliest military companies was the Wyoming Blues, though just when it was organized nobody knows. James A. Gordon says they had a quasi organization as early as 1798. They certainly existed as early as 1800 as shown by an old weather-beaten document in the possession of the RECORD, it being a printed blank, filled in with a pen. It reads as follows:

**MILITIA ELECTION.**

Notice is given to the Volunteer Company called the Wyoming Blues, attached to the Second Battalion in the 35th Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. Ransom, that an election for a Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign will be held at the house of Lawrence Myers, Esq'r, in the township of Kingston, on Thursday, the 19th day of June, inst., 1800, between the hours of 10 in the forenoon and six in the afternoon, where those concerned are requested to attend, to elect by ballot, the said officers.

WILLIAM ROSS,  
Brigade Inspector of the  
Second Brigade, composed  
of the Militia of the  
counties of Northumber-  
land, Lycoming and Lau-  
zerne.

Wilkes-Barre, June 10th 1800.

The old paper is handed us by George H. Butler, Esq., and is one of the batch found a couple of years ago among the effects of Zebulon Butler, son of Col. Z. Butler.

There are also a couple of sheets of paper pinned with the same pin that fastened them together 80 years ago, giving what appears to be the original organization of the Wyoming Blues, their rules, uniform and first roster. It is so torn and soiled that some parts cannot be deciphered. We append it, though not vouching for the correctness of the signatures as given:

The undersigned, belonging to the Wyoming Blues, pledge ourselves to comply with the following rules, to wit:

That we will furnish ourselves with such uniforms, etc., as shall be agreed on by the company by the — day of —

That anyone who in the least does not equip and attend agreeably to the rules of the company. . . .

Zeb. Butler,  
George Unahoon,  
W. M. Robison,  
Samuel Brown,  
Calvin Edwards,  
Edwin Tracy  
Josiah Bennet,  
Elijah Adams,  
Nutton,  
John J. Ward,  
Godfrey Perry,

Charles Miner,  
Isaac A. Chapman,  
Isaac Bowman,  
Luman Gilbert,  
Nehemiah Waters,  
James S. Lee,  
James Wright,  
Lyra Landon,  
Jacob . . .  
George Hendler,  
Jacob Kiethline,

Andrew Vogle,  
Conrad Rummage,  
George Espie,  
Daniel Downing,  
John L. Burrel,  
Joseph Shafer,  
Jesse Crissman,  
Francis Rainow,  
Benjamin Perry,  
John Hannis,  
James Foster,  
Hugh H. Anderson.

Resolved that no member shall have leave to withdraw unless by consent of the company, unless urgency requires it sooner than the company can meet, and in such case he shall have leave of the officers. *Passed.*

Resolved that the uniform of the company shall be as it has formerly been, except the coat, which shall be a short skirt coat or a coatee, and those who have an uniform at this time may wear their present coats. *Passed.*

Resolved that we will be uniformed at or before the next general review. *Passed.*

- The uniform shall be,  
1, A crowned brimmed black hat . . . black bear skin, with a white . . . and red lap.  
2, Deep blue coatee, faced and trimmed with red.  
3, White or buff vest.  
4, Deep blue pantaloons circled with red.  
5, Either boots or black shoe and black gaiters. *Passed.*

**Death of Ex-Judge Barnum.**

About 11 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 11, Charles T. Barnum, a former associate judge of this county, died at his residence, on the shores of Harvey's Lake, after a brief illness of inflammation of the bowels. For many years past he had lived a quiet, retired life at his comfortable home on the Lake. He was born in Kingston Jan. 8, 1813, and was therefore a few days past 74 years old. In his early manhood he took an active part in public and political affairs. He served one term as county commissioner and was for some time afterwards commissioners' clerk. He was elected associate judge and sat on the bench with the late Judge Conyngham. He was widely known throughout this and neighboring counties, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was a genial and kindhearted man and will be sorely missed by his more intimate friends.

Funeral services will be held at his home at the Lake to-day at 10 a.m., after which the remains will be removed to the home of his son, Benjamin F. Barnum, on South Welles Street, from whence the interment will be made on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Another son who survives is Prof. James Barnum.—*Daily Record, January 12.*

G. H. R. Plumb, Esq., left recently to make some hasty researches throughout New England and the South in matters concerning his "History of the Plumb Family in America."

### WILKES-BARRE'S RESOURCES.

#### Facts Taken From the Tenth Census Statistics of Population.

Volume 18, of the tenth census, treating of the social statistics of cities, has just been received at this office. It bears date of 1888. Nine pages of the volume are devoted to Wilkes-Barre, and the article on our city is illustrated by a diagram showing the distance and direction of New York, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburg and Buffalo, and by a map of Wilkes-Barre.

A foot note states that Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre, is the author of the historical sketch, and also transmitted a large proportion of the detailed information concerning the then (1880) condition of the city. It is, however, due to Mr. Reynolds to say that the blunders with which the report abounds are not his, but the result of bad typesetting and worse proof reading. None of the proofs reached the author. For instance, our people of Connecticut extraction should not deal unkindly with Mr. Reynolds because his article says that Wyoming was first settled in 1762 by a party of men from Cincinnati. Nor should they be misled by the "secret attempt" of the Susquehanna Company in 1769 to take possession, for second attempt is meant. The completion of the North Branch Canal in 1813 is, of course, a misprint for 1830. The river common, instead of having a maximum width of 3,500 feet, has only 350, and the river has not washed the rest away, either, in spite of one or two local alarmists.

The table of population by decades is badly mixed. The figures should be as follows: 1820, 755; 1830, 1,201; 1840, 1,718; 1850, 2,723; 1860, 4,253; 1870, 10,174; 1880, 23,339. Apart from these the blunders are mainly examples of the Government type setters assuming to know more about grammar than the author.

The latitude is 41 degrees, 14 minutes north; longitude 75 degrees and 56 minutes west from Greenwich; altitude 511 to 731 feet.

Total valuation, \$3,134,180; per capita, \$134. Net indebtedness, \$95,097; per capita, \$4 07. Tax per \$100, \$3.83.

An interesting sketch is given from the earliest settlement down to 1880 and a description of the city as it appeared in that year—its railroad communication, tributary country, topography, climate, streets, water works, public buildings, pleasure grounds, places of amusement, drainage, cemeteries, markets, sanitation, infectious diseases, municipal cleansing, police and manufactures. As seven years have elapsed since these statistics were prepared, and our city has doubled in population, it would serve no good purpose to reprint them now in these

columns. If they could be brought down to date and published in pamphlet form together with the historical sketch, they would form a most valuable document for the Board of Trade to distribute. They convey a vast deal of information that is too valuable to be locked up within a public document.

The volume is compiled by Col. George E. Waring, Jr., of Newport R. I.

#### Index of Government Publications.

A most valuable publication has lately been issued from the Government printing office, a copy of which reaches the Record through the courtesy of Congressman Osborne. It is a descriptive catalogue of all the Government publications of the United States from 1774 to 1881, a period of 107 years. It is a volume of nearly 1,400 pages, 9x11½ inches, and is compiled by the well known Washington correspondent, Benjerley Poore, clerk of printing records.

The greater portion of the volume is devoted to a list chronologically arranged, of the many thousand publications, legislative, executive and judicial, giving each a very brief summary of a few lines. This of itself would furnish the investigator scant help in tracing up a subject of finance, political economy, or other historical matter. But search is rendered easy by means of a detailed index.

For example, suppose one wants to refer to the efforts made half a century ago to indemnify the people of Wyoming Valley for losses sustained during the Revolutionary War, the following interesting references are given in connection with "Wyoming:"

"Memorial relative to Wyoming claims. Citizens of Pennsylvania. Dec. 27 1837. Ex. Docs. No. 52, 25th Congress, 2d session, Vol. 2 Spp. 8 vo. In behalf of the sufferers by invasion of the Wyoming settlement by the British and Indians during the Revolutionary War; praying for a grant of lands to the survivors and to the heirs of those that are dead.

Resolutions relative to claims of Wyoming sufferers. Pa. Legislature, Apr. 16, 1838. Ex. Docs. No. 358, 25th Congress, 2d session, Vol. 10. In favor of the passage of a law granting compensation to the sufferers by the Wyoming massacre during the Revolutionary War.

Report on petition of heirs of the Wyoming victims July 2, 1838. Reports of committees, No. 1032, 25th Congress, 2d session, Vol. 4, 2 pp., octavo. House Revolutionary Claims Committee reports adversely to allowance of compensation for losses sustained.

Petition relative to Indian depredations. Citizens of Wyoming, Feb. 18, 1839. Ex-

Docs. No. 208, 25th Congress, 3d session, vol. 4, 40 pp., 8 vo. Praying compensation for losses and sufferings occasioned by the attack of the Indians on the town of Wyoming during the Revolutionary War".

Under date of March 25, 1836, reference is made to the recommendation by the House Revolutionary Claims Committee of allowance to heirs of Dr. Wm. Hooker Smith, of Wilkes-Barre, for his services as acting surgeon during the Revolutionary War. This petition was taken to Washington by Dr. Andrew Bedford, who, after the lapse of 50 years, is alive and well at his home in Waverly.

The measures taken in regard to Frances Slocum, "the lost sister of Wyoming," are as easily traced, as also the measures introduced by our several Representatives in Congress.

Every event in our Nation's history can be traced easily, provided one has access to the public documents themselves, many of which can be found in the library of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, which is at present one of the official depositories of all the Government publications. The index alone affords interesting reading. Under such heads as "Jefferson Davis," "Slavery," "Revolutionary War," "George Washington," "Tariff," "Public Land," and hundreds of other topics one can find as much to interest as he could by consulting a cyclopedia.

The work of preparing the volume occupied two years and was performed by Mr. Poore and 14 assistants. They found and catalogued 63,066 books, pamphlets and documents, ransacking the libraries of Congress, of the Senate, of the House, of the seven Executive Departments, of the Departments of Agriculture, the Smithsonian Institution, of the Coast and Geodetic Survey and the other scientific surveys, as also the public library of Boston.

The work is not too wieldy for reference and will greatly facilitate an examination of the books, pamphlets and documents published by or purchased by the Federal Government since its inception, many of which have been virtually unknown to publicists and the students of questions to which they relate. Mr. Poore is to be congratulated upon the fidelity and thoroughness with which his work has been done.

On the occasion of the inauguration of Gov. Beaver, the Harrisburg *Telegraph* published a series of biographical articles of all the Governors of Pennsylvania, from the fertile pen of Dr. W. H. Egle. By the way, Dr. Egle has been busily engaged reading the proof sheets of volume 13 of the Pennsylvania Archives.

#### Col. Plunkett's Expedition.

Dr. W. H. Egle, of Harrisburg, sends the Record an interesting document pertaining to the Plunkett invasion of Wyoming Valley in 1775. The doctor promises a sketch of Plunkett for a subsequent issue. We may premise the old document by remarking that Plunkett was sent in 1775 to Wyoming by the Pennsylvania Assembly to effect the arrest of certain of the Connecticut claimants who were charged with illegal practices. He accordingly marched on Wyoming with 500 men. At Nanticoke they were given a warm reception by the Connecticut settlers, and beaten back with a loss of two killed and several wounded, the fight occurring on Christmas Day. The expedition accordingly returned down the river without effecting its object. Plunkett is mentioned in the bill as Doctor, he having been a druggist, and perhaps a practitioner of medicine, though as to this, Dr. Egle will doubtless enlighten us in his promised sketch.

#### The Province of Pennsylvania

To Capt. Thomas Gaskin Dr,	
For a large Boat Lost in the Expedition with Doctor William Plunkett returning from Wyoming.....	£18 0 0
To Six large Socket polls Lost at the same time.....	2 5 0
To 12 Days Service of myself at 3s 9d per day.....	2 5 0
To 12 Days Service of two boatmen at 2s 6d per day.....	3 0 0
To finding myself and hands provisions.....	2 1 5

December, 1775 £28 5 0

Interest Due.

Northumberland County ss:

On the 20th day of November Anno Dom. 1789, Before me John Simpson esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common please for the county afores'd, personally came Thomas Gaskins, who being duly sworn on the holy Avangilists of Almighty God, did declare and say that the account as above stated is just and true; and that he never received it nor no part thereof, and further saith not.

THOMAS GASKINS.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year afores'd, Before me, witness my hand and seal.

J. SIMPSON.

{ SEAL }

[The foregoing is endorse], "Thomas Gaskins' account against the Province of Pennsylvania" and also "Received a Certificate No. 16,749 for twenty-eight pounds five shillings, W. Wilson." Col. William Wilson, was then a member of the Supreme Executive Council from Northumberland County. Who was Thomas Gaskins?]

#### A Connecticut Local History.

A 96-page pamphlet recently received by the Record bears the following title: "Historical Sketch of the Congregational Church and Parish of Canton Center, Conn., formerly West Simsbury, organized 1750. Compiled by Rev. Frederick Alvord and Miss Ira R. Gridley. Hartford, 1886." It opens with a historical sermon preached by Rev. Jairus Bart in 1851, the only connected history of the church up to that time. The settlement of Simsbury began in 1737, and the place was constituted a parish in 1750. The first settled pastor was Rev. Evander Morrison, 1750, and the second was Rev. Gideon Mills, 1759; third, Rev. Seth Gage, 1774; fourth, Rev. Jeremiah Hallock, 1785 to 1823. A curious document is given, relative to the pastor's retirement, he signing a paper discharging the society from any liability as to his salary, and "I ye said Mr. Morrison do acquit and discharge the society from all demands from the beginning of the world to this day and forever after. Received in full—I say received per me—as witness my hand." The pamphlet traces the church and the parish down to the present and gives brief sketches of such citizens as become prominent in business or in the professions. It closes with a historical poem by Miss Ida R. Gridley, who was a Wesleyan graduate in the class of 1885 and is now a student of medicine. The pamphlet is a valuable contribution to Connecticut local annals and is of interest as well to students of Wyoming history, some of our pioneers having come from the region described.

#### Eighty-Two Years Old

[Daily Record, Jan. 4.]

The host of Col. Charles Dorrance's friends, should they meet him to-day, would be glad to extend him their hearty congratulations at having reached the ripe age of 82 years. The event will be quietly celebrated by a family gathering. Col. Dorrance is hale and hearty and shows hardly a trace of the paralytic attack which affected him some time ago. He is therefore in good trim for enjoying the event and having his children and grand-children around him again. The colonel takes pardonable pride in coming from the old Connecticut stock which first peopled this fruitful valley and who had first to drive out a savage foe and then seek to maintain an unequal conflict for title against the power of what was believed to be oppression on the part of the State government. Col. Dorrance is president of the association which meets annually at the foot of the monument to com-

memorate the bloody fight of 1778, and in which his grandfather, Lt. Col. Geo. Dorrance, was so badly wounded that he was on the following day killed by his savage captors.

Col. Charles Dorrance—he gets his title from having been an officer in the old Wyoming Volunteers—is a liberal patron of everything which goes to build up Wyoming Valley and to elucidate its early history. At the 3d of July gatherings he has a fondness of making them as impressive as possible, and always insists on taking to the annual dinner as his guests the several clergymen who may be present, and not only so, but he does the newspaper men the compliment of including them in the same select circle of guests.

Col. Dorrance is a son of Benjamin Dorrance and a brother of the late lamented and beloved Rev. John Dorrance, of local fame in Presbyterian circles. He was born Jan. 4, 1805, and has ever since lived in the ancestral home, where he has a model farm and where he is surrounded by everything that wealth and a discriminating taste can supply. In his advancing age he is not alone, but his good wife, whom he married in 1845, is spared to enjoy his company. Their home is visited almost daily by some one or other of their children or grandchildren. His son, B. F. Dorrance, Esq., lives with his family near the paternal home and his daughter Annie Buckingham, wife of Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., lives in Wilkes-Barre. Of his other sons, J. Ford Dorrance is practicing law in Meadville, John is farming in Missouri and Charles, Jr., is a clerk in Chicago.

Col. Dorrance has been prominently identified with local affairs. He was, among many other trusts, a leader in the Luzerne County Agricultural Society, a jail commissioner and he holds the presidency of the Wyoming Bank, a position filled by his father half a century before him.

Col. Dorrance has indeed been favored by fortune and by health, and now, with his family around him and with a well-earned reputation for industry and integrity he ought to be able to enjoy his 82d birthday with an unusual degree of pleasure.

#### The Old Sullivan Road.

The second of a series of articles running in the *Guardian*, a Reformed Church publication printed in Philadelphia, appears in the December issue of that journal. The editor—Rev. H. M. Kieffer, A. M.—relates the story of the massacres at Wyoming and Cherry Valley in 1778, and the determination of Washington to avenge these atrocities, the article closing with a brief sketch of Gen. Sullivan, who was selected to chastise the savages.



**A Princeton Lady Dead.**

From a recent number of the Princeton (N. J.) *Press* we learn of the death of Mrs. Susan Breece Packard, wife of Prof. Packard, of Princeton College, and a cousin of Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, of this valley. Her maternal grandfather, Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, was from 1795 to 1801 first pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Princeton. She was a descendant in the fifth generation of Benjamin Fitz Randolph, one of the prominent men of Princeton in his time. The connections of her family in different generations included such names as Finley, Breece and Bayard, names that Princeton loves to honor. Her life prior to her marriage had been spent mainly at Orange and Bloomfield, N. J., the scenes of the former pastorate of her father, Rev. Joseph S. Gallagher. Prior to entering the ministry her father spent 20 years in the National service as assistant astronomer and as an artillery officer. Mrs. Packard lost an only daughter four years ago and she gradually declined from that time. She will be lovingly remembered by such of the students as knew her.

**A Pioneer Physician's Widow Dead.**

GORMAN—In Providence, Jan. 23, 1887, Mrs. Louis Beecher Gorman, relict of the late James T. Gorman, M. D., aged 92 years and 6 months.

Mrs. Gorman was the relict of the late James T. Gorman, M. D., one of the pioneer physicians of Northeastern Pennsylvania. She was born in Litchfield County, Conn., July 29, 1794, of sturdy New England stock, her childhood was passed in her native county, amid surroundings and influences that tended to the development of deep, strong and abiding virtues. In 1816 she was united in marriage to James T. Gorman, M. D., and in 1836 removed to Abington, where her husband was contemporaneous with the late genial and warm-hearted Dr. Nichols and the venerable and much esteemed Dr. Andrew Bedford—now living. For twenty years she assisted her husband in the arduous duties of his profession, incident to a wide practice in a new and sparsely settled region, until his death in 1853, riding with him often night and day to visit the sick and administer to the wants of the distressed. With a mind keenly sensitive to the needs of humanity, with a heart charitable and ever sympathetic with suffering, and with an energy that never flagged nor faltered, her active life abounded in good deeds. She was the mother of the late Chas. Gorman, M. D., of Pittston; Mrs. I. V. Lynch, of Waverly, and Mrs. D. C. Stanton, of Abington.—*Scranton Republican*.

**Half a Century in Old Luzerne.**

Albert McAlpine, whose death occurred at Pleasant Valley on Jan. 19, was for several years a resident of Wilkes-Barre Township, and was well-known to the older portion of our citizens. He was a native of Winchester, Connecticut, was born April 23, 1813, and came to Wilkes-Barre when 20 years of age. For a time he assisted his brother, Hiram McAlpine, in the management of his factory at Laurel Run, where the latter had established a turning shop in connection with the business of manufacturing scythe snaths, hay-forks, wooden measures, etc., on an extensive scale, by the aid of water power belonging to his father-in-law, Hezekiah Parsons, father of the present Calvin Parsons, of the borough of that name.

He removed to what is now known as Pleasant Valley when the whole country was a wilderness and settled on a tract of wild land, but farming was found not to be a congenial occupation and he soon started the business of manufacturing powder kegs and wooden pails by machinery, which business he conducted successfully until his factory was destroyed by fire, in which he sustained a heavy loss.

He was thrice married; his first wife being Mary Ann Wright, daughter of Josiah Wright, a well-known citizen of Wilkes-Barre. No issue was left by this marriage, but he leaves a family of sons and daughters all grown to man and womanhood; three sons of the second wife, and two daughters and one son by his surviving widow. The deceased was an honest, conscientious citizen, upright and just to all; one who, after more than half a century's residence and business career amongst us, has left to his children as their chiefest inheritance an unsullied reputation.

In speaking of the death of Albert McAlpine recently Capt. Calvin Parsons remarked that in 1823 the former's brother, Hiram, came to Wyoming Valley on a business trip and sold Mr. Parsons' father a shingle machine, the trip resulting not only in the sale but in Mr. M.'s falling in love with his customer's daughter, whom he married three years later. In 1833 Calvin Parsons was on one of his carriage trips from Wilkes-Barre to Connecticut and while at New Marlboro he met his brother-in-law, Albert McAlpine, who rode back to Wyoming Valley with him. Mr. Parsons speaks in the highest terms of deceased and states that the friendship formed in that early day was never dimmed for a moment by the lapsing years and that in his death the community lost an upright and useful citizen.

The funeral of Mr. McAlpine took place at the Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Valley, January 21, and a large concourse

of people attended. The exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke, assisted by the resident pastors of the borough. Dr. Parke made a most feeling address and all the people were deeply moved, deceased having been held in the highest esteem by all classes of people in Pleasant Valley. Interment was in the burying ground adjoining the church.

W. J.

#### Valuable Newspaper Relic.

Dr. Throop, of Scranton, is the owner of a valuable relic of Pennsylvania journalism in the shape of a file of the famous *Porcupine's Gazette*, which, for a time, the great historian and grammarian, William Cobbett, made famous. This file dates from June 15, 1797, to Oct. 18, 1797, and is remarkably well preserved, which latter fact is partly due to the excellent care the doctor has taken of the papers, and partly from the fact that the paper is hand-made and has a "body" which cannot be found in latter day papers.

The proprietor states in a modest headline that his paper "is published every evening by William Cobbett, opposite Christ's Church." The news published in the papers alluded to, consists chiefly of the proceedings of Congress, which at that time held its sessions in Philadelphia, and letters from a few European capitals. Among the advertisements is one signed by the publisher offering a reward of \$500 for the detection of "any postmaster or deputy" who tampered with the *Gazette* while it was en route to its subscribers. Such work seems to have been prevalent in those days, and Mr. Cobbett stigmatizes it as "dastardly and assassin-like."—*Republican*.

#### Letter from Mr. Yarrington.

In a letter to the RECORD under date of Carbondale, Jan. 15, Mr. Dilton Yarrington says:

Enclosed you will find stamps sufficient to pay for two of your almanacs. I am just getting up from a severe cold and attack of rheumatism, that has confined me to the house more than a month. I improve slowly indeed.

Since writing the above I received the last week's RECORD, in which I noticed the death of Judge Charles T. Barnum. In 1828 Sloan Hamilton was editor of a paper at Dundaff, called the *Dundaff Republican*. Charles T. Barnum was his apprentice. He was a slender little fellow, very bright and intelligent, and was much loved and respected by Mr. Hamilton's family, and everybody else that became acquainted with him. I remember his parents well, when they lived in Kingston, when Charles was a little boy, in 1817 and 1818.

#### The Pennsylvanian's Lament.

Many of our readers will remember Charles W. Foster, who about 1872 or 1873 came here from Mauch Chunk and kept a music store on Market Street in Chahoon Hall building. Mr. Foster, who is a brother of Mrs. Thomas W. Brown, of this city, soon after went into Philadelphia journalism as a reporter on the *Press*, becoming managing editor of the *Evening News* in the centennial year and in 1888 being called to the same position on the *Civil*, then starting. The loss of his wife in 1885, a young writer known as "Florida Hale," was a blow which for a time crushed him in body and brain and he was an invalid for a year. During last year, however, he accepted a position on the *Omaha World* where he is winning laurels as a humorist. The *Omaha Republican* speaks of him as "of a quiet, retiring disposition, as near a recluse as it is possible for a newspaper writer to become, and of a thoughtful, serious nature, more given to philosophy than fun. He takes little pride in his humorous work, but it has from the first been extensively quoted, not only throughout the United States but in Canada and England. He proposes, he says, to stick to it until the public becomes as tired of it as he is."

The latest we have seen from his pen is the following, entitled "The Pennsylvanian's Lament:"

How sweet to my ears are the names of my child hood,

The names Pennsylvanians worship for aye,  
Aboriginal cognomens heard in the wildwood  
When Indiana traversed the Minnequa way—  
Tunkhannock, Tamaqua and Hockendook-qua,  
Tamanend, Tobyhanna and Tonawan-da,  
Meshoppen, Tomensing and Catasaw-qua,  
I love you, I greet you, sweet sounds of PA.

How mountain and meadow, and rill and ravine,  
The broad Susquehanna and Wyoming's ray,  
Spring forth in the landscape by memory seen—  
The Lehigh, the Schuylkill and Lackawan-na,  
Lycoming, Shamokin, Monongahela,  
Kittanning, Perkasie and Shenando-a,  
Towamencin—another, not spelled the same way—

I love you, I greet you, sweet sounds of PA.  
The rivulet's warble and the cataraet's roar,  
The names that I cherish wherever I stray—  
Manayunk, Conshohocken, Monococcy-more,  
Nanticoke, Kittatinny, Shickshinny, Hey! Day!

How heart leaps at mention of 'atawis-sa,  
Mahancy, Nesquehoning, how soothing the lay!  
Lackawaxen, Shickamaxon, Perkiomen—  
whit, pray,  
Is sweeter than Mauch Chunk (Mockchuak so they say)—

I love you, I greet you, sweet sounds of PA.

Illinois has a citizen named Gotobed. He is in no danger of being a night editor.

## WILLIAM MILL BUTLER.

Sketch of a Former Wilkes-Barre Journalist Who is Winning His Way to Fame.

The Rochester correspondent of the *Buffalo Express*, gives the following sketch of William Mill Butler, a former well-known journalist of this city:

Few men are better known in this city and few journalists in this State than William Mill Butler, who has had a career allotted to him the like of which probably no one in his profession has ever experienced. Very little of his life has ever been made public, although the *Journalist* has had one or two articles about him. At a very early age Mr. Butler became fully acquainted with the hard lot in life awaiting him. He was but little over eight years old when he was sent to work in a coal breaker. At six he had already been taught by his mother to read German and English. At twelve he went to work in the mines. For two years he lived an underground life, gaining an experience which I understand will be found portrayed in a novel which he has nearly completed. At fourteen, in January, 1872, he met the fate of so many of the workers in the mines, being run over and crushed by a loaded car. After some weeks he recovered and returned to work in the mines but in a few days broke down. A relative took him to Canada, where he was sent to school. He was clerk, bookkeeper and cashier for a time, and began verse-writing. His contributions brought him to the notice of Mr. B. H. Pratt, then city editor of the *Scranton Daily Times*. The result was that he entered the employ of that paper. He conducted the Wilkes-Barre department of the *Scranton Times* for over six months. He became city editor of the *Wilkes-Barre Daily Record*, but overworked himself and again broke down. In March, 1877, he became local editor of the *Galt, Ont., Reformer*, acting as correspondent for the *Hamilton, (Ont.) Daily Spectator*, and contributing humorous articles and verses to *Grip*, the *Canadian Puck*. Returning to Pennsylvania in June, 1878, he was placed in charge of the *Berwick Independent*. In 1879 he began the satire *Pantaletta*, the authorship of which has never before been divulged. In that year he became a member of the staff of the *Evening Express* in this city. He has since held various positions on the Rochester press. He wrote a hoax concerning an alleged case in court, in which the details were given of the trial and conviction of a young lady for wearing a high hat at the theatre and obstructing the view of a spectator. So circumstantial was the sketch that it deceived hundreds of people who

flocked to the court house next day to hear Miss Viola Weatherwax sentenced. It caused a sensation throughout the country. Even as experienced a journalist as James Foeter Coates, of New York, telegraphed for particulars. And away out in Kansas City two lawyers got into a dispute over the facts in the case, winding up with a wager, which was duly decided by a member of the Rochester bar, who was applied to in writing. For some months he has given his time mainly to literary work. He is compiling a dramatic dictionary, publishes the *Pythian Knight*, and is writing a play and a novel.

## Was President Polk in Wilkes-Barre?

The *New York Sun* has an article on an old gentleman, Elias Polk, who lately died in Nashville at the age of 80, and whose claim to distinction rested upon the fact that he was a slave in the Polk family and was body servant to President Polk. We clip a portion, though remarking that the older inhabitants do not recall any such visit of President Polk to the Wyoming Valley:

When Elias was about 12 years old he was given as a valet to James K. Polk, then a young man in college, and from that time till the President died the two were hardly separated for a week at one time. In those days all journeys had to be made by horse conveyance. It was Elias's custom to drive his master in his carriage to Washington. The first journey was made in 1828, when James K. Polk was elected member of Congress. On one of these trips, after the Tennessean had become President, a night was spent in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The next morning, while Elias was in the stable getting his horses ready, several white men approached him and asked him if he didn't know he was free.

They told him that he was in a State where a man could not hold slaves, and all he had to do was to leave and his master couldn't do a thing.

"Do you think I would go back on de President dat way? No, sir. You don't know me. I'd sooner die than run off."

The President happened to be near and heard this. He was greatly pleased, and the next day surprised his faithful valet by speaking of it, and told him whenever he wanted his freedom he could have it. When his master died Elias remained with the family until after the war.

At the January meeting of the Oneida, N. Y., Historical Society that organization did our townsman, Hon. E. L. Dana, the honor of electing him to corresponding membership.

**Anthropophagy.**

The RECORD is in receipt from Charles W. Darling, corresponding secretary of the Oneida Historical Society, Utica, N. Y., of an interesting 47 page pamphlet on "Anthropophagy, Historic and Prehistoric." Gen. Darling is an industrious delver in antiquarian matters, and this pamphlet, printed for private circulation is of particular interest. In it he traces man-eating, from the earliest times, even from the Cyclops of the Odyssey, through many nations down to the latest known instances of cannibalism, as in shipwrecks and other emergencies where life could be sustained in no other way, and among the savages of the African continent. The author states that the North American Indians frequently banqueted on human flesh. The Algonquins were wont to feed on the dead bodies of their enemies, in the belief that by devouring the flesh and blood of fallen foes, the eaters became possessed of their bravery. There also seems to be evidence that the Iroquois were cannibals to a certain extent, as were the Mohawks, in fact the literal meaning of "Mohawk" is said to be man-eater. The Ottawas are said to have devoured an occasional missionary of the Jesuits, while the Harons were wont to feed on the roasted hearts of their prisoners, the information coming from 17th century Jesuit fathers who were eye witnesses of these practices.

Gen. Darling promises another paper, on Prehistoric Man, in which he will present many facts heretofore unpublished. It also will be privately printed.

**Lack of Historical Interest.**

The Germantown *Telegraph* has a correspondent, "Iron Mask," who writes thus forcibly of a lack of interest in historical matters in old Bucks County, and as the remarks are equally applicable in old Luzerne we reprint them:

The session of the Historical Society was very slimly attended. A man must become a little musty before he takes any interest in local history. It is something like local geography. All school children know more about Timbuctoo and many countries of unpronounceable names than they do of the country they live in. Any question of local geography is a poser to archins. If you want to strike a public school dumb, ask it to find the township the school is situated in, or to name any considerable number of townships of the county. I do not know that it is of the last importance that children should know these things, nor do I deem it fatal to the child if he fails to tell an examining committee how high Mount Shasta is, or how far Pekin is from Honolulu. So it is with local history. Few people of any

locality know or care much about it. Young people do not pay the slightest attention to it. Hence it will be noticed that the persons who take any active interest in such matters are old fellows, or young fellows with abnormal old tastes. It cannot be expected that a local Historical Society will attract a large crowd until the younger strata of society begin to manifest a human interest in it.

**Coal Sixty-Four Years Ago.**

[Extract from Harrisburg Chronicle, Dec. 2, 1822.]

"*Stone Coal.* It is stated in the Philadelphia papers that a large quantity of Lehigh coal lately arrived at that city which was selling at \$8 40 per ton. The New York papers in noticing this, preface it with *cheap fuel*, and so it is. But at Harrisburg it is much *cheaper*, and on the completion of the Union Canal it will be much cheaper at Philadelphia likewise. The late freshet gave an opportunity to our fellow citizens of Luzerne County to bring down the Susquehanna coal, of which they have inexhaustible beds, of the same description with the Lehigh coal—it sold out of the arks at less than \$4 per ton, and is retailed at \$4 25. Water communication through to Philadelphia being established, would reduce the price there at least 25 per cent."

**Paper Currency of 65 Years Ago.**

Following is the sort of "paper money" we had in 1823 and for the benefit of their subscribers the newspapers published every week the amount of discount or depreciation in the exchangeable value of the banks' bills. The other States made a worse show than did Pennsylvania and New York. The next year Milton rose to 17, Centre, Greensburg and Brownsville rose to 6 each. You will notice two Canada banks in the New York list. The figures are taken from the Philadelphia *Bank Note Exchange*, Dec. 5, 1822:

State of New York banks—New York City banks, par; J. Barker's, no sale; Washington and Warren, 85; Albany, Troy, Mohawk and Lansingburg, 1 cent discount; Newburg, Catskill, Middle District, Auburn, Utica, Geneva, Col. at Hudson, Orange County, Ontario at Utica, one and a half cents discount; Plattsburg, 3 cents; Canada and Montreal, 5 cents.

Pennsylvania banks—Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Reading, Farmer's Linn, Easton, Northampton, Germantown, Montgomery County, Delaware County, Bucks County, Chester County, Lancaster, New Hope Bridge Co., 1; Carlisle, York and Chambersburg, each, 1½; Gettysburg and Pittsburg, each, 2; Milton, 20; Centre, 30; Greensburg, 8; Brownville, 8.

H. B. P.

**BUSINESS MEN OF 1818.**

**Recollections of Dilton Yarrington, of Carbondale, Giving a Directory of Wilkes-Barre as it was in His Boyhood Days.**

Dilton Yarrington, Esq., of Carbondale, was a Wilkes-Barrean in his younger days, and though now advanced in years he is fond of recalling the past and of putting his recollections on paper. Our readers have only recently been favored with something from his pen. Nearly 20 years ago he wrote for the Record, and we take pleasure in reprinting some of the matter furnished at that time, for the reason that many of our readers have never seen it and for another reason, that very few have access to files, even the Record office having no complete file. The letter we refer to is dated Carbondale, Dec. 14, 1868. In commenting on the list of business men of 1818, he omits himself, Wm. S. Ross, Lord Butler, Jr., Charles Tracy, Washington Ewing, Jacob E. Teator, Chester A. Colt and David Connor, as being mere youths; Noah Wadhama and Joshua Green, as not residents of Wilkes-Barre in 1818; Rev. Ard, Hoyt, he having gone as a missionary among the Indians in 1817. In his list he includes Abram Pike, "the Indian slayer," who though not strictly a business man in 1818, was yet a very important business man for his country in the time of her greatest need. "No man then living had rendered greater services to his country during the Indian wars than he. His name is familiar to all who have read Miner's 'History of Wyoming.'"

**COURT IN 1818.**

Thomas Burnside, president judge, to August Term, 1818, at which term David Scott became president judge, Matthias Hollenback and Jesse Fell, associates.

**BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN.**

John P. Arndt, landlord, shipbuilder, etc.  
Philip Abbott, farmer.  
Abial Abbott, carpenter and joiner.  
Nathan Allen, carpenter.  
H. C. Auhiser, merchant.  
Lloyd Alkins, carpenter.  
William Apple, carpenter.  
Ziba Bennett, merchant's clerk.  
John L. Butler, coal operator.  
Barton Butler, farmer.  
Lord Butler, merchant, coal operator, etc.  
Steuben Butler, printer.  
Chester Butler, lawyer.  
Zebulon Butler, farmer.  
Pierce Butler, farmer.  
Eleazer Blackman, farmer.  
John Bettle, cashier of bank.  
Samuel D. Bettle, silversmith.  
Nathan Barney, farmer.  
Andrew Bolles, farmer.

Stephen Bowles, bookkeeper.  
Jonathan Bulkeley, sheriff.  
Eliphalet A. Bulkeley, clerk and bookkeeper.  
Anthony Brower, tailor.  
Thomas Brown, farmer.  
William Brown, distiller.  
Brittania Barnes, merchant.  
Aaron Baty, painter.  
Moses Beamer, ferryman and laborer.  
Isaac Bowman, tanner and currier.  
Samuel Bowman, farmer and tanner.  
William L. Bowman, tanner and currier.  
Gilbert Barnes, carpenter.  
Alexander H. Bowman, U. S. Cadet.  
Horatio Bowman, ———  
James W. Bowman, lawyer.  
Ebenezer Bowman, lawyer.  
Andrew Beaumont, postmaster.  
Henry Barrackman, farmer.  
Job Barton, carpenter.  
William and George Blane, farmers.  
Thomas Bartlett, school teacher.  
Josiah Brown, butcher.  
Miles B. Benedict, hatter.  
Gideon Bebee, ferryman.  
William Bolton, carpenter.  
Elisha Blackman, cabinet maker.  
Oristus Collins, lawyer.  
Putnam Catlin, lawyer.  
Charles Catlin, lawyer.  
George Chahoon, carpenter and joiner.  
A. O. Chahoon, merchant.  
Daniel Collings, silversmith.  
Mason Crary, doctor.  
Edward Covell, doctor.  
Arnold Colt, justice of peace.  
Henry Colt, surveyor.  
Harris Colt, U. S. soldier.  
John Cary, farmer.  
Eleazer Carey, justice of peace.  
George Clymer, merchant.  
William Cox, painter.  
John Covert, laborer.  
Richard Covert, stage driver.  
Joseph H. Chapman, ———  
Edward Chapman, ———  
Isaac A. Chapman, author.  
Jacob Cist, merchant.  
John Carkhuff, ———  
Thomas J. Carkhuff, sheriff.  
Daniel Colglazer, school teacher.  
Samuel Colglazer, plasterer.  
Hugh and Cornelius Connor, carpenters.  
John and Peter Connor, carpenters.  
George Denison, lawyer.  
Thomas Dyer, lawyer.  
James Dickens, Revolutionary soldier.  
John and Robert Downer, U. S. soldiers.  
Anderson and Francis Dana, farmers.  
Chester Dana, river pilot.  
Jonathan and Bateman Downing, farmers.  
Reuben and Daniel Downing, farmers.  
Jonathan and David Dale, shoemakers.  
Eli and Aaron Downing, farmers.

- Jesse Downing, farmer.**  
**F. Dupuy, tobacco and confectionery.**  
**James Decker, farmer.**  
**Jacob J. Dennis, cabinet maker.**  
**William Dennis, gunsmith.**  
**Thomas Davidge, shoe maker.**  
**John Davis, farmer.**  
**Thomas Dow, farmer.**  
**Joseph Davis, carpenter.**  
**Lewis Du Shong, merchant.**  
**Louis Delamanon, merchant.**  
**Benj. Drake, blacksmith.**  
**Hiram Eicke, carpenter.**  
**Geo. Eicke, teamster.**  
**John Ewing, court crier.**  
**Thomas, James and Geo. Ely, stage proprietors.**  
**George Evans, lawyer.**  
**Jesse Fell, associate judge.**  
**Samuel Fell, carpenter.**  
**Edward Fell, blacksmith.**  
**Abel Flynt, tombstone maker.**  
**Jabez Fish, farmer and teamster.**  
**George Graves, laborer.**  
**James Gridley, constable, etc.**  
**Job Gibbs, carpenter.**  
**John Greenawalt, miller and farmer.**  
**Gordon Graves, tailor.**  
**Luman Gilbert, laborer.**  
**Dominick Germain, merchant.**  
**Hugh Gorman, laborer.**  
**Matthias Hollenback, associate judge.**  
**G. M. Hollenback, merchant and banker.**  
**Jonathan Hancock, landlord.**  
**James Hancock, farmer.**  
**Wm. and John Hancock, farmers.**  
**Thomas Hutchins, harness maker.**  
**John Hannis, farmer and teamster.**  
**Joseph Hitchcock, carpenter.**  
**George Hotchkiss, painter.**  
**Jacob Hart, sheriff.**  
**William Hart, ———.**  
**Abram Hart, shoemaker.**  
**George Haines, county surveyor.**  
**Isaac Hartzell, justice of the peace.**  
**Miller Horton, stage proprietor.**  
**Jessie and Lewis Horton, stage proprietors**  
**Matthias Hoffman, shoemaker.**  
**Oliver Helme, landlord.**  
**James C. Helme, cabinet maker.**  
**Patrick Hepburn, saddler.**  
**Lewis Hepburn, lawyer.**  
**Joseph Huckle, distiller.**  
**Jacob Hulz, hatter.**  
**Lathan W. Jones, doctor.**  
**Joel and Joseph Jones, school teachers.**  
**Amasa Jones, manufacturer.**  
**Jehoids P. Johnson, miller and farmer.**  
**John Jameon, Spring House keeper.**  
**John M. Kienzle, high constable.**  
**Jacob Kithline, baker.**  
**Jacob Kyte or Coit, laborer.**  
**Jacob Kutz, tailor.**  
**Caleb Kendall, minister.**  
**Lewis Ketcham, painter.**  
**Gilbert and Glover Laird, shoemakers.**  
**George Lane, minister.**  
**James Luker, shoemaker.**  
**Josiah Lewis, surveyor.**  
**Elam Lowry, Lorr Butler's teamster.**  
**Henry F. Lamb, druggist.**  
**Peter P. Loop, merchant.**  
**Washington Lee, lawyer.**  
**Charles Miner, printer. [Left about 1816.]**  
**Thomas W. Miner, doctor.**  
**Joshua Miner, stone mason.**  
**John Miller, sexton.**  
**Garrick Mallery, lawyer.**  
**Francis McShane, cut nail maker.**  
**Shepherd Marble, cut nail maker.**  
**Thomas Morgan, landlord, stage proprietor.**  
**William Miller, laborer.**  
**Joseph McCoy, cashier and post.**  
**Felix McGuigen, laborer.**  
**Abram Mock, landlord.**  
**Samuel Maffet, printer.**  
**Simon Monega, laborer.**  
**Thomas Nutting, laborer.**  
**John Ogden, ———.**  
**Thomas B. Overton, lawyer.**  
**Abram Pike, Indian killer.**  
**Godfrey Perry, bookkeeper.**  
**Benjamin Perry, transcribing clerk, H. of R.**  
**Titus Prime, colored, ———.**  
**Thompson Price, cooper.**  
**Nathan Palmer, lawyer.**  
**Thos. Patterson, blacksmith.**  
**Archippus Parrish, landlord.**  
**Geo. Peck, minister.**  
**Thomas Quick, ———.**  
**William Russell, potter.**  
**William Ross, farmer.**  
**A. H. Reeder, landlord.**  
**Francis Rainow, ———.**  
**David and William Richards, farmers.**  
**Elijah Richards, farmer.**  
**Geo. Root, stage driver.**  
**Philip Rymer, cloth dresser.**  
**Samuel Raub, farmer.**  
**John Raymond, laborer.**  
**Joel Rogers, minister.**  
**Peter and Jack Rafferty, laborer.**  
**Jacob Rudolph, shoemaker.**  
**David Soott, president judge.**  
**Joseph and Zebulon Slocum, blacksmiths.**  
**Jonathan Slocum, farmer.**  
**Zura Smith, druggist.**  
**Henry and George Sively, farmers.**  
**Benj. St. John, ———.**  
**Jacob and Joseph Sinton, merchants.**  
**Jacob Sills, farmer.**  
**Abram Toils, wagon maker.**  
**Conrad Teetor, harness maker.**  
**G. W. Trott, doctor.**  
**Stephen Tuttle, merchant.**  
**Henry Tillbury, farmer and teamster.**  
**Peleg Tracy, gentleman.**  
**Sydney Tracy, farmer.**

Edwin Tracy, harness maker.  
 Charles Taintor, painter.  
 Abram Thomas, merchant.  
 Edmund Taylor, harness maker.  
 Barnett Ulp, hatter.  
 M. Van Zeek, doctor.  
 Andrew Vogle, hatter.  
 Philip Weeks, farmer.  
 Seth Wilson, tailor.  
 Phineas Waller, farmer and distiller.  
 Lewis Worrell, potter.  
 Moses Wood, farmer.  
 Isaac Williams, basket maker.  
 Asa C. Whitney, doctor.  
 Josiah Wright, printer and editor.  
 Thomas Wright, farmer.  
 William Wright, school teacher.  
 Joseph Wright, doctor.  
 Daniel White, wagon maker.  
 Rosewell Wells, lawyer.  
 Ranslaer Wells, blacksmith.  
 Winthrop Wells, merchant.  
 Conrad Wickizer, farmer and teamster.  
 Peter and Luther Yarrington, blacksmith.  
 Henry Young, gunsmith.

#### An Old Academy Pupil Dead.

Dr. George Firman Horton died in Bradford County, December 20, 1886, having reached within a few days, the advanced age of 81 years. He was born 1806, and was the ninth child of Major John and Deborah (Terry) Horton. His mother's father, Parshall Terry, was one of the first forty to enter Wyoming Valley and settle in Kingston, and with his family, was in Forty Fort at the time of the massacre. His mother, at this time, was 11 years of age. Dr. Horton was born in Terry town, and at the age of 17 (1823) he gratified his thirst for knowledge by going on foot to Wilkes-Barre, a distance of sixty miles, where he entered the Wilkes-Barre Academy, then in charge of Prof. Orton. Here he was a classmate of the late Hendrick B. Wright. Later he received a scientific education at Van Ransselaer Polytechnic School, at Troy, of which he was the oldest living graduate (class of 1827) at the time of his death. He read medicine with Dr. Hayden, of Braintrim, now Wyoming County, and in 1829 entered upon a practice at Terry town, which became large and laborious, achieving a wide reputation as a skillful physician. In 1878 he published a genealogy of the Horton family, an elaborate work of some 400 pages. He was an ardent student of the natural sciences, an influential temperance and anti-slavery speaker, a prominent leader in Presbyterian circles, and, as a lengthy sketch in the *Towanda Reporter-Journal* says, "it is safe to say that no man in all that region will be more greatly missed, or was more greatly loved or more implicitly trusted than Dr. Horton."

Of the several surviving daughters one is the wife of the well-known historian of Bradford County, Rev. Dr. David Craft.

#### The Local Historian.

[North Wales Record.]

In reference to the statements made by local historians, we sometimes hear the sneer: "He never gets it right." Very likely the writer has made some error in name or circumstance, that call forth such comment from those unappreciative of the value of his work. These thoughtless critics, often malicious as well as heedless, never consider the vast number of things this same writer may succeed in getting right; many things, too, that otherwise would never have been preserved at all. Human testimony is fallible, and human judgment may be at fault, but there is not one of these local writers of history but who honestly endeavors to tell the truth—as, in fact, they have every motive to do. Theirs is largely a labor of love, at best. With laborious pains ancient records must be searched, old documents deciphered, journeys must be made, testimony collected from living witnesses, and concerning many possible suppositions the possibilities must be balanced. No one would be prompted to these things except he had innate taste and talent for such studies. An important work for historical literature is being done by such delvers. They turn aside from the multitude who are in eager pursuit of the selfish good of the present, to give their attention to recording and preserving what would otherwise pass into oblivion. They go down into minute details and work in a humble way in order that the greater writers of the future may have the material upon which to build a broader, nobler structure. All these writers of the present doubtless fail in some particulars, in errors of date, of name, in omission of some particulars, in infelicities of style or in slips of grammar. They must be judged by the value of their contributions as a whole, and not by their trifling mistakes. The pens of those who so glibly criticize will probably never contribute anything to our historical or other literature that is worth preserving.

John F. Meginness, editor of the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin*, is being urged by many friends to issue a new edition of his "History of the West Branch Valley," published over 30 years ago and now out of print. Correspondence from any persons interested in the matter would doubtless encourage Mr. Meginness to take some definite step.

### POSTMASTER BOGERT DEAD.

**After a Painful Illness of Eight Weeks, and a Brave Battling Against Disease, He Falls Into His Last Sleep.**

Postmaster Bogert died at a quarter past 11, Thursday night, Feb. 3, surrounded by his family and a few immediate friends. His life passed out painlessly, the pangs of dissolution having been averted by reason of a benumbing of the mental faculties of nearly a week's duration. He breathed gently away without a struggle.

Joseph Kirkendall Bogert was born at New Columbus, Luzerne County, July 16, 1845, and was consequently almost 42 years of age at the time of his death. His parents were Samuel and Elizabeth Bogert, the former of whom was a well known citizen of that part of the county. He died in 1881. The mother still survives and resides in this city.

The Bogerts are of Dutch origin and came to America with the earliest emigrants from Holland, settling in parts of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Many of the stock and name have achieved distinction in various professions and lines of business.

Deceased was the fifth of nine children, six boys and three girls, and this is the first death that has occurred among the number.

The Bogerts were in humble circumstances. Joseph attended the public schools at New Columbus and afterwards entered the Male and Female Academy, working in his father's carriage-making shop and on the farms in the vicinity during the vacations and paying for part of his tuition in work about the Academy building.

In 1863 he was 18 years of age. On June 23 of that year, he enlisted and was mustered into the United States service as a private in the 28th Pennsylvania militia. This regiment, with others, was on duty in this State and in Maryland during the invasion of the north by the Army of Northern Virginia, and had a sharp skirmish with Fitz Hugh Lee's forces not far from Harrisburg on June 30. The regiment was mustered out July 27th. He afterwards re-enlisted, this time as a private in the United States Signal Corps, and was mustered in April 4, 1864. He was first assigned to duty in the campaign against hostile Indians in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Indian Territory, under orders from Headquarters Army of the Border, Gen. S. R. Curtis commanding. He was afterwards in the campaign against Price from the New to the Arkansas River on the Missouri and Arkansas border. There were engagements at Little Blue and Big Blue respectively on Oct. 21 and 22, and later on at many other points on the route. He was sent to the Department of the North-

west, after the completion of the campaign just mentioned, and took part in the Indian expedition up the Platte and Powder Rivers, which extended from July 1 to Nov. 4, and covered over 2,500 miles of previously unexplored territory, and was attended by many hardships and dangers. He was finally mustered out Dec. 9, 1865, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Returning to New Columbus he studied with Rev. Furman, a Baptist minister of the vicinity, with a view to fitting himself for the University at Lewisburg, at which latter institution he soon afterwards completed his studies, here as at New Columbus, paying in part for his tuition by labor about the building. After his graduation he came to Wilkes-Barre and entered the office of Hon. C. E. Wright as a student at law. He remained here nearly a year, earning his livelihood meanwhile as a correspondent for the Associated Press, the *Scranton Times* and other papers. Then he was offered and accepted a position as assistant clerk in the office of George P. Richards, clerk of the courts, and soon afterwards was promoted to charge of the office. At the expiration of Mr. Richards' term, in 1874, he was appointed, through the influence of Judge Rhone deputy clerk of the Orphans' Court, being the first incumbent of that office. While serving in this capacity he was nominated by the Democrats for the registration and at the ensuing election (1875) was elected by an enormous majority, several others on the same ticket being defeated.

In July, 1876, the publication of the *Luzerne Leader*, a weekly, was begun in Pittston by E. A. Niven and C. H. Chamberlin. In February of the following year it was removed to Wilkes-Barre, having been purchased by Mr. Bogert, associated with Geo. B. Kulp, Esq. The publication was continued in the Corn Exchange Building until January, 1879, when Bogert & Kulp, (under the name of the *Leader Publishing Co.*) purchased and consolidated with it the old *Luzerne Union*, which had been for many years the Democratic organ of the county, when its name was changed to *Union-Leader*. On Oct. 1st, 1879, the publication of the *Daily Union-Leader* was commenced in the old *Union* building. In 1880, Mr. Bogert bought out Mr. Kulp's interest and from then on to the day of his death was sole publisher and editor. In 1884 the new building on North Main Street was occupied. These incidents and dates show with what skill, courage and pertinacity Mr. Bogert created, with very limited means, out of a small weekly the best known Democratic daily journal in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bogert was always active in pol-



itics. He was twice chairman of the Democratic County Committee. In 1881 he was a candidate for State Treasurer before the Democratic Convention that finally, after nine ballots, nominated Orange Noble, of Erie. During the balloting Mr. Bogert was supported by a large contingent of delegates from this part of the State and several times in the progress of the contest his success seemed almost assured. That same evening he was elected by the convention chairman of the State Committee, and he got up out of his bed at the hotel to meet the committee sent to notify him of the honor. He reluctantly accepted it, but acquitted himself in the discharge of his duties in a manner that won golden opinions from the party managers. He was solicited to stand for the State Treasurership in 1883 and it is believed that he could have had the nomination that year, but he resolutely refused the use of his name.

He was a delegate frequently to State Conventions of his party, and was a delegate to the National Convention of 1884, by which President Cleveland was nominated. He was appointed postmaster of Wilkes-Barre in July, 1885 and took possession of the office Aug. 1st of that year.

A year or so ago he was honored with the presidency of the State Editorial Association. He was one of the presidents of the local board of trade, was a member of Masonic Lodge 61 and of several beneficial organizations, such as the Legion of Honor and the Heptasoph.

While at Lewisburg he united with the Baptist Church, but never became a member of the church in Wilkes-Barre, though being one of its financial supporters. His wife being a communicant in the Episcopal Church, Mr. Bogert was a frequent attendant upon the services at St. Stephens, and during his last illness was a recipient of the ministrations of Rev. Henry L. Jones.

At Philadelphia Mr. Bogert married, Dec. 31, 1879, Mary E. Patterson, who had been a prominent and successful teacher in the Wilkes-Barre public schools and who is a well-known and estimable lady. She was at his bedside during almost every moment of his nearly eight weeks' confinement to his bed and endured the incident pains and fatigues with wonderful fortitude. They have one child living, a boy of 4 years, their first and only other one having died almost immediately after its birth.

The cause of Mr. Bogert's death was pyæmia or pus poisoning, originating in an abscess of the prostate gland; with this pneumonia was a temporary complication. At times it seemed almost certain that his vigorous constitution would enable him to throw the deadly poison off, but it was not

to be. It had secured too strong a grip before discovery, and would have killed an ordinarily robust man in half the time. He had in addition to the care of his patient wife and watchful family, that of skilled physicians like Dra. Mayer, Guthrie and Murphy and a certificated nurse from the Blockley Hospital at Philadelphia. It was not in the power of human skill or affection to further put off dissolution.

In the brief space permitted after the midnight hour in which to sum up the characteristics of a life now ended, words fail in which to pen the picture. Mr. Bogert was untiring, brave and generous and had achieved a degree of worldly success, rare for a man of his years and with the limited advantages at his disposal. Had he lived he would undoubtedly have become a man of unusual mark, not only as a leader in the business and politics of the community, but in the ever widening sphere of journalism and State politics.

As a politician he was aggressive, but believing his principles were right he battled for Democracy, not only against the open foe of Republican opponents, but against the advocates of schism within the ranks of his own party. This being the case, his path as a politician was not strewn with roses, but he followed it faithfully to the end, believing it was the path of duty.

Honest in his dealings with his fellow men, energetic in the discharge of every business and social duty, enterprising in the little world of local journalism, an affectionate son, a devoted husband and a loving father, he has left a vacant place that will be hard to fill—indeed, it can never be fully filled.

The RECORD management, with whom his business and professional relations have always been of the most friendly character, lament his loss and beg to add their sympathy to that of the host of friends who will offer their consolation.

We deem it proper to say, at this juncture, that a movement is on foot among the friends of Mr. Bogert to bring about the appointment of his widow as his successor in the postoffice, and that such an appointment would be eminently satisfactory to the community, without any reference to political affiliations. Fully competent to discharge the duty, Mrs. Bogert, who, we learn, is not left with very ample provision for her future maintenance, would grace the position, and Congressman Lynch could popularize himself in no more thorough way than by using his influence in accordance with the movement already mentioned, and which originated among the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which deceased was a comrade.

Under instructions from the Postoffice

Department, A. R. Brundage, Esq., one of the late Mr. Bogert's bondsmen, took possession of the office Friday and placed E. K. Bogert, the chief deputy, in charge of the office as acting postmaster. Mr. Bogert took the oath before United States Commissioner Hahn, and the business of the office will proceed as usual without any interruption.

#### Death of D. O. Bartlett.

Brief mention was made in the RECORD on the day following of the death of Orrin D. Bartlett, which occurred from sciatic rheumatism at Towanda, Jan. 20. Deceased was known in Wilkes-Barre, he having married for his second wife, Miss Sarah F. Tracy, of Wilkes-Barre, who died July 5, 1878.

From the Towanda papers we glean the following:

Orrin Daniel Bartlett, son of Daniel and Jane Scott Bartlett, was born in Berkshire County, Mass., Aug. 30, 1814. At the age of 10 he came with his parents to Pennsylvania. Along with Dr. John N. Weston, Mr. M. C. Mercur, Hon. David Wilmot and others he organized the parish of Christ Church, Towanda, Dec. 20, 1841, and was very active in promoting its interests. He was baptized Sept. 24, 1843. He received the rite of confirmation Nov. 9, 1845, from Bishop Alonzo Potter. He took his part as a member of the choir, as superintendent of the Sunday school or as a teacher in it, and as one of the Church Wardens through a course of many years. Very often did he also act in the capacity of lay reader in conducting the services in the absence of a clergyman.

His name is largely associated with the business interests of Towanda for a long period. He was in mercantile life for about twenty-four years from 1837, and for many years afterwards was engaged in manufacturing. Meantime, from 1841 and up to the time of his death, he had been in the insurance business.

Deceased was twice married, his first wife being Miss Mary Weston, daughter of the late John N. Weston, M. D., formerly sheriff of the county. She died 26 years ago on 20th of January. Mr. Bartlett, for weeks prior to his death, entertained a premonition that he would die on the anniversary of her death, which proved true. Of this union all his children were born, of whom three sons survive him: Rev. Franklin W. Bartlett, now an Episcopal minister, stationed at Williamstown, Mass.; Dr. Henry Arthur Bartlett, of Sugar Run, and Charles Graham Bartlett, and three daughters: Mrs. Mary F. Macfarlane, Mrs. Harriet A. Tracy, of this place, and Mrs. Cora E. Eichelberger, of Ohio.

#### A MYSTERIOUS PACKAGE.

Some Old Papers That Were Found by the Wayside Referring to Local Affairs at the Beginning of the Century.

[Reprinted from RECORD of Nov. 24, 1884.]

A short time ago a bundle of old letters and other papers was picked up by some one on the Plymouth road, in the vicinity of the new Woodward shaft, and as the contents bore the name of Zebulon Butler, they found their way into the hands of Pierce and George H. Butler, Esq., of Kingston. No one knows from whence they came nor anything concerning their preservation or custody since they were in Capt. Butler's keeping almost three-quarters of a century ago. These papers have been sent to the RECORD office for our inspection, and we have taken the liberty of making a few extracts therefrom. The Zebulon Butler mentioned was not the Col. Butler of colonial fame, but his son Zebulon, a grandson of Rev. Jacob Johnson, the pioneer congregational preacher of the gospel at Wyoming.

One of the documents is a plan for the organization of a volunteer military company to be known as the Wyoming Blues. It is very neatly written, but on coarse, unruled paper, and directs a uniform of a "dark blue short coat or sailor's jacket, faced and trimmed with scarlet; white waistcoat and blue pantaloons, edged with scarlet; black stock and high crowned hat, with bear skin on the same." The description of the uniform now finds its way into print for the first time. Any person appearing intoxicated on parade was to be fined 50 cents for first offense and for second to be ignominiously expelled. Captain Butler was a strict disciplinarian and his company is said to have been one of the best drilled in this part of the State. It was a particularly aristocratic company for those days, and the Gordon papers tell us that Mr. Butler was elected captain in 1811. The company ceased to exist in 1814.

There is considerable correspondence between Capt. Butler and Colonel John Spalding, of Sheshequin, on business topics. In one from Mr. Spalding, dated Ulster, March 10, 1810, he says, "It is the same old story—no money in the country, but counterfeit and that chiefly at Towanda." We don't like to expose our up river friends, but the truths of history must be told. In a postscript he lets out a few family secrets when he writes: "We are all well except Mrs. Spalding and she is grumbling with the old complaint;" he, however, leaves us in the dark as to what the old complaint is, but probably Capt. Butler understood the situation. In a letter to Capt. Butler the same correspondent writes from Sheshequin, "I was disap-

pointed of coming down about my cloth at the tailor's. I hear he has gone from there and I am fearful he has taken my cloth, unless he has left it with you." It must have been a pretty serious undertaking to have a coat made in those days when a man had to travel from Sheshequin, 80 miles distant, to Wilkes-Barre to find a competent tailor, and then, what a disappointment to have him run away with the cloth and trimmings, and a military coat at that, probably, as further on he directs his "board and appolett's" to be sent by Isaac Shepherd, or the post.

Luther Goddard writes in January, 1807, from Burlington to Mr. Butler, stating that "Different to my expectations and greatly to my damage I have never received those stils that I purchased of you." Probably the old Butler still-house on Coal Brook, near the present Conyngham shaft, was just then in good running order, and the people of Wilkes-Barre were in great need of whisky, so the stils could not be spared.

There is an original warrant issued by Lord Butler, county treasurer, dated Dec. 13, 1801, for the collection of \$172.39½ tax assessed against Roger Searl of Pittston township, who had paid a portion, leaving a balance of \$69.48½ still due. On the back of the warrant is the endorsement, "Levied the within warrant on two cows, two oxen and two horses as the property of said Searl—so answers Jonathan Hancock, subscriber, for Benjamin Dorrance, sheriff."

There is also a blank petition to the Right Worshipful Grand Master Masons of Pennsylvania, in the usual form of a Master Mason, asking privilege to be allowed to pass the master's chair by dispensation.

A list of "vendue notes," probably at the sale of the Butler personal property after his death (1816), includes the names of the principal citizens of Wilkes-Barre of that day; such as Archippus Parrish, Wm. Ross, Harrie Colt, John P. Arndt, Samuel Maffet, Chas. Catlin, Garrick Mallery, Jacob Babb, C. Courtright 2d, Parley Lyons, S. Van-Loon, Job Barton, Seth Wilson, Samuel Bowman. The names of Hezekiah Parsons, Harris Jenkins and Thomas, Daniel and John Davenport appear among those who paid their bills and did not give notes for the amounts of purchase.

A bill against the Butler estate in favor of Brown & Lyon shows that the price of farm produce, especially oats, was well up at that day (1816), as there is a charge for fifty bushels of seed oats, \$37.50, while the price of horse hire was quite the reverse; a charge for two horses and wagon, 28 days' hauling hay and harvesting, is put down at \$28 only.

It would appear that "going to mill" was one of the ordinary items of expense in housekeeping in those days, as there are several charges of Enos going to Wright's

mill, 50 cents each. This same establishment comes down to our own day, venerable with the historic associations of nearly a century—having been established in 1795—but has for many decades been known by the present name of the berough in which it stands—Miner's Mills.

Trouble about election matters seems to have vexed politicians even as early as 1807. In a letter to Isaac Cash from Capt. Butler, he says, in speaking of an approaching election, "I am confident that people in that quarter have an idea of holding back to take advantage of our splitting, but there is no probability of there being more than three or four candidates." What the office to be filled was we are not informed.

A letter dated Jan. 18, 1811, says he had expected his brother Steuben to go into business with him, but that Steuben had concluded to remain in the printing trade. The latter took charge of the *Lucerne Federalist* and was identified with Wilkes-Barre journalism many years after, he surviving his half brother Zebulon a period of 67 years, his death being quite recent.

#### A Pennsylvania Historical Novel.

Hon. William Bross, ex-Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, has recently completed a historical novel, the scene of which is located on the Wallenpaupack, among the mountains and forests of Pike County, Gov. Bross was born and grew to young manhood at Milford, Pike County. The Presbyterians of that place have erected a fine brick church upon the site of the wooden structure in which his father was for so long a deacon that he was through the after years of his life known as "Deacon Bross." The spire of the new building is not yet finished, but when it is it will have in it a 1,200 pound bell and a tower clock which have been presented to the society by "the Governor." Mr. Bross is intensely interested in Wyoming history and came here from his Chicago home in 1878 to attend the centennial of the massacre. He is a most genial gentleman and is identified as a director, trustee or other officer with many of the educational, historical and religious societies of Chicago. He is also pre-ident of the Chicago Tribune Publishing Co., and as such he has rendered many a favor to young newspaper men struggling for position.

Mr. C. F. Hill, of Hazleton, contemplates writing a history of that region of the Susquehanna lying between Berwick and Sunbury. He has accumulated a fund of valuable information as to early times in that region, a region intimately associated with pioneer life in old Wyoming.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

**Twenty-ninth Annual Meeting—Interesting Resume of Progress Made—Two Valuable Papers Read.**

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society held their annual meeting Feb. 11, at noon at the society rooms, Judge Dana presiding. There were present, Judge Dana, Dr. Ingham, S. Reynolds, Edward Welles, Rev. H. E. Hayden, W. P. Miner, C. Parsons, J. W. Hollenback, G. B. Kulp, H. H. Harvey, G. M. Reynolds, Adj. Wright. The annual election of officers resulted as follows:

President—Hon. E. L. Dana.

Vice Presidents—Dr. C. F. Ingham, Rev. H. L. Jones, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Hon. Eckley B. Coxe

Recording Secretary—S. C. Struthers.

Corresponding Secretary—Sheldon Reynolds.

Librarian—Hon. J. R. Wright.

Assistant Librarian—G. Mortimer Lewis.

Treasurer—A. H. McClintock.

Curators—Dr. C. F. Ingham, Conchology and Mineralogy; S. Reynolds, Archæology; Rev. H. E. Hayden, Numismatics, R. D. Lacey, Palæontology.

Meteorologist—Hon. E. L. Dana.

Historiographer—George B. Kulp.

Trustees—Dr. Charles F. Ingham, Edward P. Darling, Ralph D. Lacey, Edward Welles, Hon. Charles A. Miner.

Report was made by Mr. Kulp of the death of five members, all occurring within three months: Dr. Hodge, Martin Coryell, John Wroth, Isaac Lea, J. K. Bogert.

Judge Dana submitted weather report for last two months, which we condense as follows:

December—Lowest temperature, 17th, two below zero, only date below zero, average temperature for month, 21½ degrees; total rain fall, 1.68 inches; snow fall, 9 inches.

January—Lowest temperature, 8th, five degrees below zero; mercury below zero, 3d, 4th, 8th and 27th; average temperature for month, 22 degrees; rained 8 days; snowed 7 days; total rainfall, 3.08 inches; depth of snow, 9 inches.

A balance of \$247 was reported in the treasury.

The following reports were made:

Archæology—The cabinet has been increased during the year by the addition of 387 arrow and spear points, 3 stone axes, 8 celts, 7 drills, 5 pebbles, 2 tomahawks, as also a flaying knife, a double pitted stone, a pipe, hammerstone and gouge. The larger part were pre-ented by Henry C. Wilson, they having been found near his home, Mt. Vernon, O. Mr. Lung, and James Crockett also contributed valuable specimens.

Library—During the year there have been

added 482 bound volumes, 517 pamphlets, 24 broadside sheets, 4 manuscripts and a large number of current newspapers and files. The library now contains 4,010 bound and about 300 unbound volumes, exclusive of duplicates, of which there are 2000. The library has been open each week day from 9 am. to 5:30 pm.

Conchology—Two specimens donated, and 363 received through exchange.

Mineralogy—Ninety-nine specimens donated.

The following members were elected: Miss Carrie M. Alexander, Reuben Jay Flick, Ambrose Reese, Warren Jay Flick, Lidon Amblick.

Adjournment was had until 8 pm., at which time the society reassembled, with a large audience present, the room being filled.

Acknowledgment was made of contributions from the following donors:

Library—Hon. J. A. Soranton, Newport Historical Pub. Co., Telephone, R. Baur & Son, Express, News-Dealer, Wyoming Bank, R. B. Brundage, Y. M. C. A., Geo. Sheldon, Middlebury (Vt.) His. Soc., Bureau of Education, American Philosophical Soc., Dr. D. G. Brinton, Library Co. of Phil., His. & Phil. Soc. of Ohio, Dr. W. H. Egle, Co. Reynolds, Sheldon Reynolds, Dr. Henry Phillips, Jr., Cayuga Co. His. Soc., American Geographical Soc., Hon. J. R. Wright, Lackawanna Institute of History and Science, B. Reynolds, American Congregational Ass'n, Minnesota His. Soc., Dr. H. Hakes, Georgia His. Soc., H. G. Merrill, F. C. Johnson, U. S. Geological Survey, Iowa His. Soc., H. R. Deitrick, G. B. Kulp, E. L. Dana, Gen. C. W. Darling, Record, T. H. Atherton, S. C. Struthers, People's Bank, A. Hunlock, I. A. Stearns.

Aboriginal implements—S. Reynolds, James Crockett.

Geological specimens—Edward Welles, F. Mercur, R. H. Peterson.

Miscellaneous—Capt. O. A. Parsons, Adam Behee.

A neatly framed pen drawing was presented, which is described by its title: "A partial map of the towns of Pittston, Plains and Wilkes-Barre, showing the names of nearly all the settlers in 1837. Drafted from the memory of R. W. Hinckley, a teacher and merchant in the valley from 1837 to 1843. Drawn by R. P. Hinckley, Bridgeport, Ct. Presented by R. W. Hinckley, publisher, 165 Chambers Street, New York City."

Samuel W. Pennypacker was elected a corresponding member.

A portrait of Timothy Pickering was presented by Miss Mary Bowman.

Judge Dana read an interesting annual report as president, showing the progress made and making numerous suggestions as to the

future. He recommended branching out into the natural sciences.

Capt. James P. Dennis read a capital paper on the list of buildings in the borough in 1819 as he remembered them. Only a portion of the paper was read, Capt. Dennis being invited to present another installment later.

Dr. Ingham read an account of the New Brunswick mineral called albertite, believed to be an altered petroleum. The paper was interesting, but rather technical for the average lay mind.

The lecture room of the society is so ill adapted for lectures, having wretched acoustic properties and absolutely no ventilation, that few persons could have sat through the session with much physical comfort. Such a room would kill any but a phenomenally robust organization.

Mr. Kulp presented biographical sketches of members deceased during the year, mentioned above.

The committee appointed to confer with the directors of the Osterhout Free Library, relative to quarters in the proposed building, reported to the effect that the Osterhout directors had decided to utilize the Presbyterian Church building for from 5 to 10 years, and would be willing that the Historical Society have the Sunday school addition for their purposes, should it be suitable. It is of brick, 35x46 feet, two stories high, the ground floor seating 200 persons, the second having two rooms, each 22x34 feet in size. The building has light on three sides and is comparatively safe as to fire. The committee favored the acceptance of the offer and were continued with discretionary powers.

The Harrisburg Telegraph for Jan. 29, contains an interesting sketch on the "Underground Railway," and of William Rutherford, a notable abolitionist who lived in the Paxtang Valley. A tribute is also paid to William (or "Pap") Jones, of Harrisburg. The writer, "W. F. R.," thus speaks of him: "Pap Jones" was a large, well built man, of pure African descent, and possessed in a large measure that quality known among colored men as "Coon sense," which being interpreted, means genius, with a large share of cunning superseded. For many years Mr. Jones was one of the most efficient men connected with the "Underground Railroad" in this locality. He had acquired a thorough knowledge of the routes leading northward and was always prepared to furnish competent guides. His large covered wagon, drawn by two horses and driven by himself in the capacity of rag merchant, was frequently to be met with on the roads leading towards Wilkes-Barre or Pottsville.

#### The Pennsylvania Germans.

A treatise which will be of great interest and value to the Pennsylvania Germans of Lancaster, York, Lebanon, Berks, Dauphin, Lehigh and other German counties of Pennsylvania, has just been completed by Dr. W. J. Hoffman, member of the United States Ethnological Bureau for scientific publication.

It is an ethnological and philological history of the Pennsylvania Germans. The work embraces a dictionary and grammar of the language, the customs, superstitions, folk-lore, medical practices, powwowing, etc., of those people. A valuable linguistic comparison of the Pennsylvania German dialect of to-day, and the Pfalz dialect, particularly the Bavarian, is introduced, which shows that the language now spoken by the Pennsylvania Germans is identical with the Bavarian dialect a century and a quarter ago, but somewhat different from the modern dialect. This is explained by the fact that the Pennsylvania German has preserved its Bavarian identity as against English in Pennsylvania, while the Bavarian dialect has been materially modified by contact with other Teutonic dialects and the German proper. The work is of greater scope than has yet been undertaken in establishing the ethnologic and linguistic identity of that numerous and influential body of the people of Pennsylvania from the time of the Crefeld settlers at Germantown, under Daniel Francis Pastorius in 1682, down through the enormous tide of emigration from the Pfalz provinces which crowded into the Province of Pennsylvania until the time of the Revolution. The present dialect of the descendants of these early fathers of the Teutonic people of Pennsylvania shows its Bavarian origin with an admixture of the dialects of Baden and Wurtemberg and words from the Welsh and Irish settlers of the German counties of the State. Dr. Hoffman during his service as surgeon in the Franco-Prussian war in the Seventh army corps, under the famous old warrior, Steinmetz, and afterwards at the headquarters of Prince Frederick Charles, of Bavaria, at Verney, three miles below Metz, had ample opportunities to make investigations, which he has since followed up, and which have culminated in his present work. Special interest will attach to this work, in view of the rapidity with which, in later years, Pennsylvania Dutch has disappeared from popular use.—*Harrisburg Telegraph*.

## A FRONTIER HERO

Who was a Prisoner Among the Indians two Years—His Services Recognized by the Legislature a Quarter of a Century Later.

EDITOR RECORD: Allow me to present the following as a memorial of a brave and true soldier of the Revolutionary War, Capt. Joseph Solomon or (Salmon), of Col. James Murray's Regiment of Northumberland County Militia. It is not known whether Capt. Solomon was related to John Solomon, a soldier in the French and Indian War, or not. Of his parentage little seems to be known. However his memory richly deserves this humble notice. The following letter from Gen. James Potter to President Reed bearing date Sunbury, April 12th, 1781, will bear publishing.

Sir: I Arrived at My house on Sunday last and on Monday I came to this place and since I have made a Visit to different parts of the frontiers who I find in great distress. Numbers of them flying for there lives at this early Season of the year. The enemy has made five different Stroukes on our frontiers since the 22d of March. On the Sixth instant they ferred on an old Man, his Son and daughter. the Boy was shott dead and the indians immediately made a prisnr of the Young woman. The old Man Had a stick in Hand with which he nobley defended himself against one of the Indians who had a tomhack and made the fellow drop his Wapon. Col Kelley with a few of his Neighbours was in a house at a little distance. On hearing the enemy guns go off they Run to the place and obliged the enemy to Retreat leaving the Young Woman there prisnr and our brave old Irishman and his stick behind them and all there Blankets. They outrun Col Kelly and his party and got off as Usile

On Sabathday last the eight instant. in the evening they come to the House of one Durmes about five miles from this place immediately on there entering the house they Shott Daun and Tooke one Captain Solomon a prisnr. there was four Weemin and an number of Children in the House They plundered the House of everything that wor Valibel. But what is surprising. they went off with Captain Solomon and there plunder leaving behind the Weemin and Children. This hapned leat in the evening the next day they were pursued but not come up with. Captain Robinson has got forty men enlisted for the war, but many of them are so naked for want of all kinds of Clothing that they cannot do Dnty. They have not a blanket among them all. I know it is not in the power of Council to provide for them at present, but I hope they will as soon as possible. There is no appearance of

Cumberland Militia Coming to this County as yet. on my Coming to this County I sent off to hasten there March. I most sincerely wished for Assembly to have been with me in my disagreeable visit along the much distressed Frontiers. I have not Language to express there distresses and therefore will not attempt it.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest esteem  
Your Excellency's Most  
Humble servant

JAS. POTTER.

Capt. Robinson's destitute company referred to in the above letter is the same company of which Moses Van Campen was a first lieutenant. This is the brief history of how Capt. Solomon was taken prisoner by the Indians on the 8th day of April, 1781, at the house of one Durmer on a quiet Sunday evening near Sunbury. He was taken to York State or Canada and was gone for two years. The history of his captivity and return would no doubt make an interesting chapter in the history of the Revolutionary War. It is hoped that such a history may yet be produced and published as a tribute of respect to the memory of this one of the heroes whose memories should never die out.

It is a relief to notice that the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania did itself the honor to pass the following:

Whereas, It appears that Joseph Salmon, late a captain in Colonel James Munay's Regiment, of Northumberland County militia, while in the service of his country during the Revolutionary War, was taken prisoner by the Indians and detained in captivity upwards of two years, during which time his then infant family solely dependent on his labor for support, was left destitute, and himself treated with all the rigour incident to savage warfare, and it also appearing that he hath not received from his country any compensation for his services and sufferings.

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that there is granted to the same Joseph Salmon a tract of donation land to contain three hundred acres, for which a patent shall be made to him, his heirs or assigns in the usual manner.

SIMON SNYDER.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
Approved the fourth day of March; one thousand eight hundred and seven.

THOMAS MCKEAN.

The stardy old captain was married to a Miss Ann Wheeler, after whose family name Fort Wheeler, a fort on the Fishing Creek, just above the town of Light Street, in

Columbia County, Pa., named Fort Wheeler, was built by Moses Van Campen, in the month of April, 1778. Near this place Captain Solomon lived and died on what is known as the William Warden farm, between the towns of Espy and Light Street, and he and his wife lie buried near the place. The Captain left nine children, Isaiah, John, George, William 1st, William 2d, Jane, Margarete, Sarah and Phebe. These sons and daughters are scattered far and wide.

Isaiah, one of the sons, married Sarah McMurtrie and settled in Briar Creek Township, near Berwick, and reared a family of thirteen children: James M., Isaiah Wheeler, Clark, William, Abram M., Joseph P., John S., George Ellis, Elizabeth Ann, Maria Charlotte, Phebe and Sarah Jane.

Isaiah Salmon was widely and favorably known as an intelligent and influential citizen, and died honored and lamented by the community in which he lived.

Two of his sons, James M., and Clark are ministers of the gospel and are known as men of eminence in their calling.

Joseph P. Salmon, a namesake of his illustrious grandfather, Captain Solomon, lives in Hazleton, Pa., where he is well and favorably known. He came to Hazleton in his boyhood, and since his advent here has earned and received the confidence of the community, and has filled many positions of trust and honor. c. F. H.

Hazleton, Pa., Feb. 3, 1887.

#### Pioneer Physicians of Wyoming.

The Luzerne County Medical Society held its annual meeting and banquet Jan. 5, at the Wyoming Valley Hotel. Dr. Howell, vice-president, presided at the meeting.

After the transaction of routine business, Dr. Fred. C. Johnson, of the RECORD, read a paper upon the Pioneers of Medicine in this Valley. It was a very interesting sketch, though the reader claimed that his paper was really but a bundle of fragments of biographical gleanings, he having had no time to compile the same into such sequential form as he might have done and would have done, had he been given mere time. The morsels of personal reminiscences in the lives of the early doctors were more than interesting. He touched upon none of the doctors later than 1825. Dr. Johnson gave Dr. Hollister, of Providence, credit for much of the material that he presented last evening, and paid that antiquarian and genial medical philosopher a warm tribute of praises and urged the purchase of his valuable collection of aboriginal and other curiosities as the nucleus of a museum; this as a recognition of Dr. Hollister's zeal in its collection and as a financial help to him now that he is

prevented from practicing his profession.—*Wilkes Barre Correspondent of Scranton Republican.*

#### FLOUR FOR 44 YEARS.

Price Per Hundred in Philadelphia from 1785 to 1828.

The following table of the price of flour per hundred in Philadelphia is the average for each year, and now taken from an old Salem paper in possession of Salem County Historical Society dated March, 18, 1829:

1785.....	\$ 5 87	1807.....	\$ 7 17
1786.....	5 65	1808.....	5 69
1787.....	5 25	1809.....	6 91
1788.....	4 81	1810.....	9 37
1789.....	5 20	1811.....	9 95
1790.....	5 53	1812.....	9 83
1791.....	5 22	1813.....	8 92
1792.....	5 25	1814.....	8 60
1793.....	5 90	1815.....	4 71
1794.....	6 90	1816.....	9 78
1795.....	10 60	1817.....	11 69
1796.....	12 50	1818.....	9 96
1797.....	8 91	1819.....	7 11
1798.....	8 20	1820.....	4 72
1799.....	9 66	1821.....	5 72
1800.....	9 96	1822.....	5 58
1801.....	10 40	1823.....	6 82
1802.....	6 90	1824.....	5 62
1803.....	6 78	1825.....	5 10
1804.....	8 22	1826.....	4 65
1805.....	9 70	1827.....	5 23
1806.....	7 90	1828.....	5 60

Aggregate average for forty-four years \$17.42. The circumstances which have produced the principal fluctuations are given as follows: From 1794 to 1796 scarcity in France and England; from 1798 to 1800, export to England; 1800 to 2801, scarcity in England; 1804-5 scarcity in Spain; 1808-9, long embargo; 1809-10-11, Peninsular war; 1812-13-14, war with England; 1816-17, scarcity in England. To this we might add the cause of an advance during the latter part of 1828, viz., scarcity in Europe, particularly in England. The state of the currency in 1814-15 had an effect on prices. The highest yearly average was that of 1796, viz., \$12.50, and the lowest price that of 1823, viz., \$4.65. The lowest price was in March, 1821, \$3.37. The highest price was in March, 1796, \$15.—*Salem South Jerseyman.*

#### Indian Relics.

James Crockett, of Ross Township, has sent the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society some valuable aboriginal specimens. They comprise a grooved axe, plowed up on the farm of Miner Goss, in Fairmount Township, white arrow and drill; grooved tomahawk, from Crockett farm; a stone gouge from George Hess' farm, Fishing Creek, and a lot of flint chips.

### THE MINISINK MA SACRE.

**A Honesdale Writer Gives Some Interesting Facts and Sets Historian Chapman Straight on One Point.**

[John Torrey in Honesdale Citizen, Feb. 10.]

The notice of the recent death of the widow of the late Judge Manning, of Bethany, brings to remembrance some interesting historic events resulting in the death of one of her ancestors, in his country's service. To many of your readers the full history of the affair is not easily accessible, and to such a brief statement of the facts will be interesting.

Mrs. Manning was a daughter of David Wilder and wife, and her mother was the daughter of Paul Tyler, and a granddaughter of Captain Bezaleel Tyler, who was one of the pioneer settlers of the valley of the Delaware at Cochecton.

The early settlers then were much exposed to the attacks by the Northern Indians, and several times they were obliged to flee to neighboring settlements for safety.

On learning of the Wyoming massacre by the Indians in 1778 the settlers at Panpack, and most of those at Cochecton, deemed it unsafe to remain at their homes and fled with their families to the settled parts of Orange County, New York, for safety.

While they were thus residing in Orange County as refugees, a band of Indians and Tories from the North, led by Col. Brandt, came into the Delaware Valley, and during the night of July 16, 1779, made an attack upon the settlement at the upper end of the Minisink flats, near Port Jervis, seized such property as they could take with them, destroyed such as they could not take and compelled the inhabitants to flee for their lives.

Information of the raid was immediately sent by a messenger to Goshen, and the militia of that region, together with such volunteers as could be obtained, were ordered by Col. Tusten to rendezvous at Minisink (now Port Jervis) early the following morning, July 21.

Capt. Bezaleel Tyler (grandfather of Mrs. Wilder) and Moses Thomas, Sen., (father of Judge Thomas) from Cochecton, and Moses Kellam, Sen., from Panpack settlement, all of whom were there as refugees, volunteered to join them.

On the morning of July 21st, the officers under Col. Tusten, and as large a force as could be mustered under so short a notice, met him at the place appointed, and found that the enemy had left, going up the Delaware with their plunder. After discussing the situation it was decided to pursue them, and they took up the line of march and proceeded some 17 miles that day, and encamped.

In the morning, Col. Hathorn, of War-

wick, overtook them with a few more men, and being the senior officer, took the command.

They advanced to Half-Way-Brook, now Barryville, and found the Indians had there encamped the night before. Here, as Capt. Tyler was known to be familiar with the geography of the country over which they were now to proceed, he was selected to take command of a small scouting party, to go forward and reconnoitre the movements of the enemy, and suggest the most favorable ground for attacking them.

He and his party had proceeded but a short distance in advance, when he was singled out and killed, probably by some Tory who recognized him, and realized the danger to those who were fleeing, from having a man so familiar with the route, acting as guide to their pursuers.

About 9 o'clock they came in sight of the Indians, three-quarters of a mile distant, advancing leisurely up the river, and Col. Hathorn marched his men over the hill intending to reach the ford at the mouth of the Lackawaxen in advance of the Indians.

Col. Brandt discovered his movement and made a counter move so as to get in the rear of his pursuers, and chose his time and place for attacking them, and on the hill, about a mile east of the mouth of the Lackawaxen, he succeeded in so cutting off one-third of Col. Hathorn's forces that they could not again unite, and then on ground chosen by Brandt, a most desperate battle was fought, and Col. Hathorn's forces disastrously defeated, and more than forty of them killed and left on the battlefield.

Among those so killed, was Moses Thomas, Sen., who had at Cochecton, been a neighbor of Captain Tyler.

The bones of the men thus slain, were left to bleach in the forest, until 1823, when patriotic citizens of Orange county, united to collect them, and have them properly interred. And on the forty-third anniversary of the battle, July 22, 1822, the bones were so disposed of beneath an appropriate monument then erected in Goshen, in honor of those brave but unfortunate men.

This battle has been called the "Battle of Minisink, or 'Minisink Massacre,'" but the site where it took place, was nearly 20 miles distance from that part of the Delaware valley, which the Indians called Minisink.

But another more important and misleading error is the statement in Chapman's History of Wyoming, in incidentally alluding to this battle, that the men who were there killed by the Indians, were part of a company of Pennsylvania militia who had been sent to the Lackawaxen to protect the settlers.

At that date, July 22, 1779, all the organized militia of Northeastern Pennsylvania



have been supposed to be massed at Wyoming, preparatory to moving up the Susquehanna under Gen. Sullivan that week to attack the Six Nations of Indians in the Chemung country, and if so, there would have been no company of Penn'a militia to spare to be sent to the Lackawaxen if needed. But historians very generally agree in telling us that immediately after the Wyoming massacre in 1778, the settlers at Paupack on the Lackawaxen, and at Cochecton all fled for safety, so that there were few, if any, settlers there needing military protection.

The evidence is now incontrovertible that the patriotic men who were in that Minisink battle, were from Orange County, New York, including a few refugees from Pennsylvania. J. T.

#### FRIENDLY INDIANS AT WYOMING.

On Their Way to See Gen. Washington at Philadelphia—Their Dread of Small-Pox.

In 1777 the settlements in Westmoreland were infected with small-pox and the disease was actively combated by the settlers. Pest houses were established at points off from the traveled roads and all cases of the disease were compelled to be conveyed thither for treatment. The Indians had a most intense dread of the infection, for then as now, they were its easy victims. We have before us volume 1 of the new series of Pennsylvania Archives, edited by Hon. John Blair Linn and Dr. W. H. Egle. So far as we have seen there is no reference in the local histories to the presence of the Indians referred to in the appended letter from Col. Denison to the committee of Easton, to whose friendly attentions the Indians were introduced:

WESTMORELAND, Jan'y 9th, 1777.

GENTLEMEN: The Bearers hereof are Part of a Large Body of Indians belonging to the six Nations who have Expressed their friendship for the United States of America, at a Council held in this Place this day; they als Inform us they are upon a Journey to Philadelphia to speak with the Congress, (if returned,) Otherways intended to see General Washington. They have Desired us to write to you & beg that they may be Pointed to Places to Escape the Small Pox and other Pestilential Disorders, (if such there be among you.) This is wrote upon their Particular Desire, to give you Information of the approach of the Body of Indians, which Consists of about two Hundred Men, women & Children; and they further desired us to request of you your Influence, that their Proposed treaty might be at Eastown if it be possible at this time, for fear of the Dis-

orders, &c., Mentioned as above; we Doubt not but you will Pay due attention to these People at this time when their favours will be more Eligible than their Frowns.

We beg leave, Gent'n, to Subscribe Ourselves your friends & very

Humble Servants,  
NATHAN DENISON,  
WILLIAM JUDD,  
CHRIST. AVERY.

TO EASTOWN COMMITTEE.

That the Indians were cordially received is shown by the following memorandum, headed

#### "THE EXPENCE OF THE INGENS."

To 1 Gall. of spirits,	£2	4	0
To 1 Bottel	0	1	0
To 2 wine Decanters,	0	13	6
To 18 Gall. of Sider, 2-S,	2	8	0
To 11 Gall. of sider, J. C., 8-0,	4	8	0
To 7 Boles Tody,	1	1	0
To 4 Dobel Boles Do,	1	4	0
To 15 Nithe's and Days hay for one horse	2	5	0
11 Do,	1	13	0
8 Do,	1	4	0
7 Do,	1	1	0
	£18	16	
2 Nithe's hay,	0	4	0
	£18	56	

Rec'd Feb'y 18th, 1777. of Jas. Dean, the within Acc't in full, for Isaac Sidman.

HENRY FULLERT.

A recent Wyoming County paper thus states: "Miss Emily C. Blackman wishes us to state that the errata of her History of Susquehanna County are about to be published and furnished on application to all her subscribers, gratis, except when stamp for mailing is necessary. All who have detected mistakes will please give her notice at once, or refrain from criticism hereafter."

Lancaster County has organized a historical society and it has done so none too soon. It has been well nigh two hundred years since the first white settlements were made within the borders of what is now Lancaster County, and more than a century and a half since the erection of the county itself.

Following are the officers chosen for the permanent organization: President, Rev. J. H. Dubbe, D. D.; Vice-Presidents, Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Samuel Evans; Recording Secretary, A. F. Hostetter; Corresponding Secretary, W. W. Griest; Librarian, S. H. Zehm; Treasurer, S. P. Eaby; Executive Committee, F. R. Diefenderffer, J. B. Hipple, R. M. Reilly, C. T. Steigerwalt, C. H. Stubbe, H. A. Brickenstein, Rev. J. Max Hark, S. C. Slaymaker, P. C. Hiller, W. U. Hensel.

## WAR PRICES.

## Their Rise in the Confederate States—Curious Comparative Showing.

W. H. Beard, of Orange Grove, Miss., sends to the Louisville, Ky., *Courier-Journal* a clipping from a Mobile paper, published near the close of the war, containing a comparative table of prices for the years 1862, '63, '64 and '65. As published below it is an interesting and instructive bit of financial history:

Articles.	CONFEDERATE MARKET REPORTS.			
	Jan., 1862.	Jan., 1863.	Jan., 1864.	Jan., 1865.
Flour, extra, bbl.	\$11 25	\$57 00	\$100 40	\$300 00
Flour, fine, bbl.	8 00	50 00	100 10	250 00
Cornmeal, bu.	1 00	3 00		7 00
Corn, sack, bu.	88	3 00	4 50	8 50
Coffee, Rio, lb.	60	3 25	11 50	50 00
Sugar, brown, lb.	7	85	3 00	12 00
Sugar, refined, lb.	23	1 00	4 00	
Butter, country, lb.	50	1 00	3 00	8 00
Eggs, doz.	20	1 00	2 00	
Bacon, lb.	21	30	3 25	3 75
Lard, lb.	19	53	3 00	3 00
Fresh beef, lb.	8	15	85	1 25
Fresh pork, lb.	14	30	1 75	1 50
Coal, ton.	15 00		150 00	200 00
Candles, sperm, lb.	75	2 00	12 00	
Salt, Liverpool, sack	10 00			38 00
Soap, hard, lb.	12	50	80	2 50
Tallow, lb.	18	80	1 50	5 00
Potatoes, sweet, bu.	1 00	2 50	5 50	12 00
Potatoes, Irish, bbl.	10 00		60 00	80 00
Onions, bbl.	8 00			100 25
Chickens, doz.	3 50	7 00	25 00	75 00
Turkeys, doz.	10 00	30 00	75 00	100 44
Rice, lb.	7	12	22	2 00
Cow peas, bu.	1 00	2 75	6 00	14 00
Molasses, N. O., gal.	50	2 50	14 00	20 00
Apples, dried, lb.	7	28	60	2 00
Peaches, dried, lb.	17	38	90	3 00
Beeswax, lb.	30	90	1 75	5 00
Wheat, bu.	1 50		7 00	28 00
Wood, oak, cord.	3 50	15 00	30 00	70 00

## James Bird.

Some one out in Ohio appears to have been writing for a paper there relative to James Bird, the hero of Lake Erie, as we learn from the following letter in the *Norfolk Reflector*, from C. J. Baldwin, a former resident of Luzerne County:

Messrs. Editors: Your correspondent, H. Buckingham, in his interesting letter concerning James Bird, is mistaken as to the authorship of the song. It was not written by Charles Dorrance, as he claims, but by Charles Miner. My information is positive and direct. I am a native of Luzerne County, Pa., where I resided up to within twenty years. Am familiar with the history

of that county and its people, past and present. Have met Mr. Miner, and two years ago was at his old home, now occupied by his son, Wm. Penn, who for many years published the *Wilkes-Barre Record of the Times*, to whose columns it has been my privilege in times past to contribute articles for publication.

Charles Miner published at Wilkes-Barre from 1801 to 1818, a paper called the *Gleaner* which, it is reputed, was ably edited. Was afterwards elected to Congress. Subsequently devoted his time mainly to literature. Was the author of a work entitled the *History of Wyoming*. Col. Charles Dorrance, to whom Mr. Buckingham refers, is yet living, has a princely income from coal lands, and his age is now 82 years. His military title comes from having been elected colonel of volunteer militia in 1835, at which time my father was elected major, whose commission was signed by Wolfe, then governor of Pa., which I have in my possession. Dorrance's grandfather, George Dorrance, was killed at the massacre of Wyoming, July 3d, 1778.

Pace and Bowman, two of Bird's companions in arms, who were with Perry on the flagship, Niagara, lived about five miles from where I resided and when a boy I heard Pace say that he was below in the vessel throwing up cannon ball, and just before the close of the action Perry said to him; "A few more balls, my brave fellow, and the day is ours." Pace said it was impossible to even imagine the electrifying effect that remark had upon him. He could then throw with greater ease two balls where he had thrown one before.

Stewart Pearce, in his "Annals of Luzerne County," says that "Bird was from Pittston, and was descended from a most respectable family. He was a man of great bodily strength and activity, and was full of patriotic devotion to the cause of his country, but unfortunately his proud spirit boldly rejected many of the restraints imposed by the stern rules of military discipline. He fought like a tiger, and when wounded refused to be carried below. News of the intended attack of the enemy on New Orleans had reached the fleet on Lake Erie, and Bird, ambitious to be in the midst of the smoke and fire of battle, one night when in command of the guard, marched away with several of his men to join Gen. Jackson. He was pursued and arrested at Pittsburg, from which place he was about to embark with a company of volunteers for the Crescent City. Being arraigned before and tried before a court-martial, he was sentenced, in accordance with the rules of war, to be shot. Had Commodore Perry received intelligence of the proceedings in time, Bird's life would have been spared."

# The Historical Record

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No. 7.

## THE OLDEST PRINTER.

### A Visit to a Venerable Printer and Journalist.

Col. John F. Meginness, of the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin*, recently visited Major Wm. P. Elliott, at Lewistown, the oldest printer and editor in the United States, and thus tells of it:

At a stated hour last evening we called on Major Elliott, whom we found awaiting us in the drawing room of his comfortable residence. He partially arose and, leaning on his cane, warmly greeted us with a shake of the hands.

"I have been awaiting you for a quarter of an hour," he said, in a firm voice, and turning to the reverend gentleman continued: "I told you to bring your friend at 7:30 sharp; it is nearly a quarter past that time, but it's all right."

"I have long had a desire to meet you," I said, "as it is claimed by the press that you are the oldest printer and editor in the United States, and knew many of the leading men and politicians who flourished three quarters of a century ago."

His countenance brightened up at this remark and he replied:

"Yes; I believe I'm the oldest printer in this country. I was born here in Lewistown January 12, 1793, and have spent my entire life in and about this place."

"When did you commence learning the trade?"

"In 1807 I was apprenticed to Alexander & Phillips, publishers of the *Carlisle Herald*, to learn the trade of a printer. I was to serve four years."

"You served your apprenticeship?"

"Yes. In 1811, being a full fledged journeyman, I returned to my native town and started the *Juniata Gazette*, in connection with James Dixon. It is still published, but is now known as the *Lewistown Gazette*."

"You served as a soldier in the war of 1812?"

"I did. I was with a party on detached duty when the battle of the Thames was fought, and saw considerable service in that part of the country."

"That was the battle in which, it is said, Colonel Dick Johnson killed Tecumseh, the famous Indian chief."

"Yes, sir; I think there is no doubt that Johnson killed him in that battle."

"Did you ever meet Col. Johnson?"

"I have. He visited me here many years ago, and we had a pleasant time."

"Were you in the service when Perry gained his victory on Lake Erie?"

"I was near enough to hear the sound of his guns when he thrashed the British in that naval engagement."

"Did you return to the printing business after the close of the war?"

"In 1816 I sold out my interest in the *Gazette* to Mr. Dixon and engaged in other business, which I followed with varying success for many years. I was once engaged in the turnace business, but when hard times came I was obliged to suspend. Finally, in 1834, I returned to the old *Gazette*, and after publishing it a short time, sold out to my son in 1835."

"You knew many of the distinguished men of the time?"

"Very well. I've met Henry Clay, and once I traveled with him down the river from here in a boat. I knew James Buchanan well, John W. Forney and many other prominent men long since dead."

"Did you know U. J. Jones, who wrote the story called 'Simon Girty,' and the history of the Juniata Valley, more than thirty years ago?"

"Very well; and I once met Simon Girty, too. I visited him in his cabin, near Malden, after the battle of the Thames."

"You are an older printer than Gen. Simon Cameron?"

"Yes, sir; I learned my trade several years before Cameron had learned to set type."

"You attended the unveiling of the monument to Gov. Snyder, at Selinsgrove, three years ago?"

"I did, and I believe Gen. Cameron and myself were the only two men present on that occasion who knew and were acquainted with Gov. Snyder. I have in my possession a commission signed by Gov. Snyder commissioning me a major of militia in 1817. I had a fine sword and uniform once, but an officer borrowed a portion of it on a certain occasion and failed to return it."

Oliver Hillard is achieving success in the effort to trace the genealogy of the Hillard family, and is in correspondence with members of different branches of the family in various States.

**The Hakes Genealogy.**

When, last summer, by way of diversion, Dr. Hakes undertook to collate and formulate his genealogical record of the Hakes Family, he had no expectation that his labor would be extended beyond a few weeks, nor that the outcome would exceed what might be comprised in a dozen to twenty pages of manuscript. The volume he has just published contains, however, eighty-seven printed pages. The record covers seven generations, and the list of names reaches the very considerable number of 561. Its production has consumed six months of arduous work, and that it is complete so far as obtainable, and adds an original feature in arrangement which, while it does not disturb the ordinary method, suggests a change that is likely to make more easily traceable the line of descent in branches of a family, is due to Dr. Hakes' thorough way of working and his clear conception of what is most intelligible to the ordinary reader.

Solomon Hakes is shown to be the common ancestor. He had sons, George and Jonathan. Finding that the living descendants are the direct posterity, either of Jonathan or of the sons of his brother George—Richard, George S. and James—the contents of the book are arranged in four tables, the first tracing the descendants of Jonathan, the second those of Richard, the third those of George S., and the fourth those of James. Dr. Hakes is in the line of George S., through his son Lyman, whose children were Lyman, (who was a member of the Luzerne bar, his death occurring in 1873,) Minerva, (the mother of L. H. Bennett, Esq.,) Homer, Adaline, Harlo, Harry, (who was an M. D. from 1846 to 1877, and a member of the Luzerne bar since and at present,) Caroline and Vienna.

The Doctor makes this laconic observation for those who may inquire as to his reason for publishing the book: "To those who ponder as to a motive to make a record of this kind, (quite too long neglected) I trust the receipt of a copy, free of expense, postage paid, will be a consoling answer." There ought to be in every family one who would take the pains to preserve the family record that is so admirably taken in this instance. The book is very tastefully printed, and is from the office of Robert Baur & Son.

In connection we may add that Dr. Hakes made in his researches many new acquaintances, renewing old ones as well, and in order to create fraternal feeling and fresher family traditions, he purposes having a meeting of members of the family at the National Hotel, Niagara Falls, on the first Wednesday in August. He is making every effort to induce a large turnout, and we dare say he will secure it, and will have withal a royal good time.

**Early Lackawanna.**

[Dr. Hollister in Scranton Truth.]

Fifty-four years were measured and rededicated by wars and massacres at Wyoming after the Indian purchase, before stone coal through the genius of Judge Fell, of Wilkes-Barre, achieved its triumph over wood as a fuel in 1808. This fact imparted the first dim conception to the farmers of Lackawanna that the black stuff along the streams and new lands offending the eye and the plough, might be put to better use than impoverishing the soil otherwise productive. The population of the valley in 1808-12 was small and the inhabitants poor. Occupied with the plain duties of husbandry, put to their wits' end to provide for the pressing wants of large families, they gave no thought to the mineral resources of the country, of which they were totally ignorant until Judge Fell's success was diffused throughout the country. No one thought of digging coal, because it was worthless to all but the few blacksmiths occasionally at work with it near some cross roads. As the rivers and the various streams entering it from the mountains had laid coal bare in many places by the action of the water, the citizens of Pittston and Providence, began to estimate the probable worth of this new fuel. In the absence of authentic record, it is difficult if not impossible to put the credit of first burning stone coal in the valley where it really belongs. The pioneers from New England were not tempted here with the hope of finding anthracite. Here and there, generally by a spring, a log cabin emerged from the fresh burned clearing in which brave hearts and strong arms met the assaults of poverty with undaunted heroism.

Communication with the lower valley, carried on by the returning mill boy, who told what he had heard at the mill while waiting for his grist, slowly agitated the settlement with the success of Fell's burning coal in a grate. Preserved Taylor, a man of observation and judgment, who lived on the western border of Capouse Meadow, owned the Tripp farm whose margin was watered by a small rivulet. From a vein of coal brought to light by the receding waterfall, near the present Mount Pleasant Colliery, he gathered a few lumps for a fire in his kitchen in the autumn of 1810, two years later than its introduction in Wilkes-Barre.

Coal, like wood, everywhere abundant, cost nothing but the trouble of drawing it to the farmer's horse on the bob sled in winter time. As it made a fire which would last all night and far into the next day without the trouble of kindling it each successive dawn with half frozen fingers and a wheezy bellows it soon advocated its way among the farmers along the river who were able to

employ a smith to make one of the primitive grates of the day.

#### WHAT THE COAL SULPHUR DID.

These grates had so little draught to them that most of the sulphur from the coal entered the room. Before the advent of coal fires everybody had the cutaneous eruption known as the seven-year itch. In families where coal was used it soon disappeared and the luxury of scratching entirely ceased with the introduction of coal fires. It may astonish many to learn the fact that because this new kind of sulphur cure offered a cheap, quick sovereign remedy for what was then prevalent throughout the country in spite of brimstone rolls and ointments assiduously employed, it more readily was adopted by the wood burners and choppers. No powder or pick was necessary to secure coal. A crowbar or hand spike and a peck basket constituted the entire mining machinery of the valley in 1810.

#### The Richest Dimple.

The richest dimple in the Appalachian chain of mountains is known as the Lackawanna coal field. No minor vale in any province, territory or State has so widely diffused its name throughout the hemisphere as has this, simply by the wonder of its development and the rigor of its coal literature. The anthracite field of Lackawanna, with that of Wyoming lying in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties, in Pennsylvania, within one hundred and fifty miles of the seaboard, embraces the territory above the Blue Mountains, known in coal nomenclature as the "Northern Coal District," was purchased of the Indians comprising the Six Nations at Fort Stanwix, in the Province of New York, July 11, 1754, by the Connecticut Susquehanna Company, before the wild men knew of the nature or existence of coal or the value of the wide tract they ceded to the whites for a trifle. It was not sought out by the emigrants from New England for its anthracite, because they too were without knowledge of its presence or value.

The consideration given the assembled chiefs was £2,000, New York currency, equal to \$10,000 in silver. This sum, unlike annuities promised the savages in the great West for their possessions to-day, was honestly paid them on the spot. Covered with forests whose depths were rarely trodden by warriors and never mapped by the canoe-lovers who claimed them from their fathers, the purchase was made by the whites for the reason that the mild character of the climate and the fertility of the soil, especially along the Susquehanna and Lackawanna lowlands, where fish and game were abundant, assured the husbandman of plenty from the very

start, without extraordinary labor or exertion.

A century retires before the coal revolution. Men will read these articles whose infant cries were lulled to sleep by a mother's song at eventide beside the wood fire aglow in the old fire place without measuring in their minds the transition from the wood to the coal period. So thoroughly and yet so quietly has this great, grand revolution been carried on in a spirit of rivalry, if not extravagance, that many in their haste for wealth, have forgotten the hanging of the crane over the hearthstones where they were born.—*H. Hollister, M. D., in Scranton Truth.*

#### Death of a Former Wilkes-Barrean.

HAY.—At his residence in Moulton Township, three miles west of Wapakoneta, O., on Feb. 13, 1887, of Bright's disease, Charles Hay, aged 66 years, 6 months and 27 days.

We copy the above death notice from the *Anglaize Republican* of 17th of February. The deceased was born in Wilkes-Barre Township, now Plains, July 15, 1817. He was a son of Henry Hay, blacksmith, whose shop and place of residence was the first house this side of the late Esquire James Stark's place on the main road leading to Pittston. He was married in 1849 to Ellen Jackson, of Wilkes-Barre, and removed to Anglaize County, Ohio, in the fall of 1855, where he has since lived. His wife died in July 1868, leaving a family of five girls and a son, all now living. For his second wife he married Martha Young, of Anglaize, in 1870, who died in 1879, leaving four children, all now living. In 1881 he married Miss Mary Larue, of Wilkes-Barre, who still survives him. Mr. Hay was a kind husband and an affectionate father. He has paid several visits to his native town since removing to the West, and was always welcomed kindly by the few of his former neighbors and friends of old Plains who knew him well as boy and man for so many years, and who still survive him; but the old stock of thirty-five years ago are becoming few and far between: a new people, with new pursuits and new objects in life have almost wholly supplanted the original tillers of the soil and driven them to seek new homes, many of them on the rich farm lands towards the region of the setting sun, while the subterranean toilers in the mines now here risk life and limb to gain a scanty subsistence in bringing to the surface our black diamonds of commerce.

A history of the Dean Family is now being published by Dean Dudley, Wakefield, Mass. The work is illustrated, has tabular pedigrees and sells for \$5-\$1 each for 5 parts. The author invites data from representatives of the Dudley family.

**THE LATE ABI SLOCUM BUTLER.****A Representative of Several Distinguished Pioneer Families of Wyoming Valley — Her Funeral.**

The last tribute of respect was paid to the memory of the late Mrs. Abi S. Butler March 15, by a large concourse of sorrowing friends at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Ruth B. Hillard. The services were conducted by the pastor of the First M. E. Church, to which deceased had belonged since childhood. He was assisted by Rev. Dr. Y. C. Smith, the oldest surviving pastor of the church, he having served from 1864 to 1886. The latter made a most touching address. A choir consisting of Miss Nellie Wells, Miss Edith Puckey, Frank Puckey and John C. Jeffries sang the hymns. There was a profusion of beautiful flowers. The honorary pall bearers were W. W. Lomis, F. V. Rockafellow, L. D. Shoemaker, N. Rutter, Josiah Lewis and Richard Sharpe, and the carriers were C. B. Price, Wm. Dickover, E. J. Sturdevant, Thomas Connor, Therou Barnett and G. W. Kirkendall. Among the relatives from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Sayre Jr., Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ayres, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Chahoon, Mrs. Nice, Mrs. John B. Love, Mrs. Mary Butler Reynolds, Pierce Butler and Mrs. Martha Butler. Other family representatives were George Slocum Bennett, Frank A. Phelps, W. L. Conyngham, Charles Parrish, Col. C. M. Conyngham, Judge Woodward, Mrs. Amanda Butler, O. E. Butler. Interment took place in Hollenback Cemetery.

Mrs. Butler's father, Joseph Slocum, was a prominent man in old Wilkes-Barre and took a leading part in local affairs. He married, in 1800, Sarah, daughter of Judge Jesse Fell, whose discovery that anthracite coal could be burned in an ordinary open grate was made in 1808, the first discovery that anthracite could be used for domestic purposes. There were seven children from this union. Hannah, born 1800, married Ziba Bennett and died in 1856. Kn'h Tripp, born 1804, married Gen. Wm S. Ross and died in 1882. Deborah, born 1808, married Anning Chahoon. Abi Slocum, born 1808, married Lord Butler and died in 1887. George, born 1812, married Mary Grandon. Jonathan, born 1815, married Elizabeth Cutler Le Clerc, and died in 1860. Harriet Elizabeth, born 1819, married Charles B. Drake and is the only one of the children living.

At the age of 24 Abi Slocum was married to Col. Lord Butler. She spent her entire life in Wilkes-Barre. Her daughter, Ruth

B., is the widow of W. S. Hillard. Mary B., is the wife of Eugene B. Ayres. Of four sons, Joseph, Zebulon, Ziba and Edmund G., the latter is the only one living. Mrs. Butler was a Methodist by training and by preference and her happiest hours were spent within the walls of the sanctuary. She was a woman whose heart beat quick to every call for help, and there will be many poor families who, in her death, lose a friend who was ever dispensing aid. Her charities were quiet, but wide-reaching. She was the first president of the Board of Lady Managers of the Wilkes-Barre Hospital and member of the lady managers of the Home for the Friendless, taking an active interest in both. Mrs. Butler's demise was not unanticipated, as she had for some time been in an apparent decline, with, however, little or no suffering attending it.

Mrs. Butler's husband was a son of Gen. Lord Butler, and a grandson of Col. Zebulon Butler. The latter bore a distinguished part in the troublous times of early Wyoming, and was in command of the heroic band of settlers who fought the combined force of British, Indians and Tories in 1778. Zebulon Butler married for his first wife Anna Lord, and it was from this union that the elder Lord Butler was born at Lyme, Conn., in 1770. Lord Butler became prominent in Wyoming affairs, was advanced to the highest position in the local militia, was the first sheriff of Luzerne County, and afterwards held the positions of prothonotary, clerk of the courts, register and recorder, court then being held at his house, corner of River and Northampton Streets, where Judge Stanley Woodward now lives. In 1790 he was a member of the Supreme Executive Council of the State, in 1794 he was postmaster of Wilkes-Barre, in 1801 he was a State Assemblyman, and afterwards was county commissioner and county treasurer. Still later he was a town councilman of Wilkes-Barre Borough, its president, and from 1811 to 1814 was burgess. He married Mary Pierce, granddaughter of Abel Pierce, one of the original settlers in Wyoming.

Their youngest son bore his father's name, Lord Butler, and he was born in 1808. He married in 1832 the subject of this sketch, who was two years his junior, but who survived her husband 25 years, he dying in 1861 at the brick building on Public Square now occupied by Brown's book store. This building was erected by his wife's father, Joseph Slocum, in 1807. It was the first brick house erected in Wilkes-Barre. Lord Butler, 2d, was a civil engineer by profession, and was identified with several important constructions in this region. During the last 20 years of his life he was engaged in coal mining at Pitts-

ton, with his brother, Col. John L. Butler, and his brother-in-law, Judge Garrick Mallory. He was a leading man in the M. E. Church. His wife organized a Sunday school in Wilkes Barre as early as 1829.

The subject of this sketch was a niece of the celebrated Frances Slocum, who was captured by the Indians in 1778 and carried from her Wilkes-Barre home into the wilderness by a roving band of Delawareans, she being at this time five years of age. The story of her captivity and her romantic finding nearly 60 years later, among a tribe of Western Indians, is familiar to every schoolchild. The niece, whose death has just occurred, was the possessor of a life-size portrait, in Indian garb, of the "Lost Sister," who could not be persuaded to return to her kindred, but preferred to die among the children of the forest, the only friends of whom she had any knowledge.

#### An Old Wyoming Poem.

So far as we know the following beautiful lines have never appeared in any newspaper. They are taken from a rare volume, in the possession of the Historical Society, entitled "The Harp of the Beech Woods," printed and published at Montrose in 1822 by Adam Waldie, the author being Juliana Frances Turner, who describes her volume as being made up solely from "the wild flowers of the forest." It is a collection of extremely meritorious verses and was presented to the society in 1858 by Edward S. Loop:

#### THE VALE OF WYOMING.

Adieu to thee, Wyoming, loveliest vale!  
To thy mountains, thy rills and thy groves,  
To the flowers which in clusters enamel thy  
dale,  
Where the birds tell the tale of their loves.  
Where the spirits of Albert and Gertrude are  
seen  
By Cynthia's pale shadowy light,  
While the dark Catalisai and Henry's mil' mien  
Look like morning led on by the night."  
Where the genius of Campbell has loved to re-  
pose  
His might and his sweetness of verse,  
Where the bloom of the thistle its wild magic  
throws  
O'er the scene his bright numbers rehearse.  
Adieu ye sweet shades! from my mind whilst I  
live  
Your remembrance never will fade;  
Food fancy in song oft her tribu e shall give  
To each hill and each beautiful glade.

Ex-Surgeon-General Hammond, the eminent New York physician, has issued another historical novel from the press of D. Appleton & Co., entitled "On the Susquehanna." The scene is laid at Harrisburg and people in Dauphin County claim to see through the thin disguises of many of the characters.

#### Drunkenness Now and Then.

The letters of "Steele Penne" in the *Media American* are always entertaining in their style and independent in their sentiments. Not the least so is a recent comparison of the liquor habit a century ago with the liquor habit to-day, which comparison redounds much to the discredit of our sober ancestors.

Steele Penne has taken the pains, he says—and we will accept his word for it—to look over some of the old records, and diligent search therein has persuaded him that we have progressed more rapidly in everything else than in drunkenness. Such a bold statement in defiance of the rhetoric and warnings of male and female lecturers on the spirituous degeneracy of the times, savors of a temerity that all will admire. We will append, for the justification of "Steele Penne," a few of the facts that he claims in support of his conclusion.

First, then, there are not as many public houses where liquor is sold under a license in this country as there were a century ago. In Delaware County, at that ancient day, there were six times as many liquor places, in proportion to the population, as at present. In Chester County, cited as the present paradise of liquor dealers, the ratio in one hundred years has fallen in a wonderful degree.

It is claimed, and with apparent foundation, by the unfrightened "Steele Penne" that illicit liquor selling was carried on to a greater extent in the age of our great-grandfathers than in the present day. Drinking on Sunday is shown to have been a favorite and general custom at the public houses, a popular beverage being "Sampson," so-called doubtless from its strength. Drinking at funerals was a common custom much honored in the observance.

In order to inspire big bids at vendues, liquor was on draught, free to all, and as plentiful as water. In fact, liquor appears to have been a concomitant of every social, political or mixed gathering. Jurors, in capital cases on trial, were invigorated for their deliberations by the rum bottle, and bills for such refreshment for jurors, commissioners, assessors and justices were paid by the county. The custom of drinking on New Year's Day is so recently abandoned as to be readily recalled.

All in all, "Steele Penne" makes out a strong case for his conclusion that drinking and drunkenness are not at present so prevalent as in the days of our sober ancestors. That the liquor habit is still the worst social evil that the world is struggling with "Steele Penne" does not attempt to confute; if he were to make the attempt we are sure he would find it beyond his power.

#### The New State Librarian.

Our telegraphic columns announced several days ago the appointment of Dr. Wm. H. Egle, of Harrisburg, as State Librarian. Although there were other available men among the applicants, notably the venerable editor of the *York Dispatch*, Mr. Hiram Young, it is safe to say that the appointment of Dr. Egle could not have been improved upon. Dr. Egle is 58 years of age and has always lived in Harrisburg. In his boyhood days he learned the printer's trade and subsequently had charge of the State printing. He also engaged for a time in editorial work in Harrisburg. At the age of 24 he began the study of medicine, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1859. He practiced his profession in Harrisburg until 1862, when after the second Bull Run he was telegraphed for by Adjutant General Russell, of Pennsylvania, to go to Washington to assist in the care of the wounded, which duty he performed. Soon after he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 96th P. V., and in 1863 surgeon of the 47th P. V. militia. Afterwards President Lincoln appointed him surgeon of volunteers and he was ordered to Kentucky and elsewhere. During the Appomattox campaign he was chief executive medical officer of Birney's Division, 24th Army Corps, and later held the same position in the 25th Corps.

At the close of the war Dr. Egle again located in Harrisburg, but a taste for literary pursuits tempered, perhaps, with the absence of the excitement of field life, made private practice irksome and he did but little of it, engaging meanwhile in the drug trade, which he still follows as closely as his literary work will permit.

Upon the organization of the National Guard of Pennsylvania in 1870 he was appointed surgeon-in-chief of the Fifth Division, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and he is now the senior medical officer in the N. G. P.

He is a member of many historical and learned societies in America and England. He is the author of a "History of Pennsylvania," published in 1876 and was associated with Hon. John Blain Linn, in editing 12 volumes of the second series of "Pennsylvania Archives." Later productions of his pen are histories of Dauphin and Lebanon Counties and the initial volume of "Pennsylvania Genealogies," a superb volume of over 700 pages. Dr. Egle edits the department of *Notes and Queries* in the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, a historical feature which finds an imitator in the Historical Column of the weekly Record.

He will bring to his duties of State Librarian, a mind admirably adapted to the work in hand, an experience in the realm of State

history having no equal in the Commonwealth, and an enthusiasm born of love for books that will revolutionize the State Library. Gov. Beaver is entitled to the thanks of all good citizens for making the appointment.

#### Death of Silas Alexander.

[Daily Record, March 5.]

At 20 minutes to 7 last evening Silas Alexander, the serious accident to whom was reported in Thursday's Record, died at his residence over Bergold's meat market on East Market Street. Since his severe fall on Wednesday afternoon by which a leg was fractured and one hip dislocated he had been steadily sinking, and the effects of his injuries were further aggravated by the manifestations of kidney disease. Since Thursday afternoon he had been partially unconscious and could with difficulty be aroused from his comatose condition. He seemed to suffer considerably, but his last hours were more calm and he appeared comparatively free from pain.

Mr. Alexander was born in Dover, Sussex County, N. J., April 25, 1799, his parents being of English extraction. He was educated at the Newton Academy in New Jersey, and having completed his course there took charge of the institution for one term. His parents had died when he was quite young and he had been brought up by an uncle. In 1820 he left his native town and moved to Nanticoke where he continuously resided for over 50 years. At first he taught school in that town but after a few years opened a general store which was largely patronized by the boatmen who plied on the canal. He was married Oct. 19, 1821, to Elizabeth, daughter of Valentine Smith, of Newport township, by whom he had 13 children, seven of whom survive him. His wife died in September, 1871, and Nov. 26, 1878 he married his second wife, the widow of Samuel Puterbaugh, by whom he is survived though no children resulted from this union.

His surviving children are Cyrus, John J., Eugene, Adrian, Phoebe, wife of William Leisenring, who reside in Nanticoke, Duran C., a prosperous merchant of Laporte, Ind.; and Washington, who resides in Benton township.

Mr. Alexander moved to this city some eight or ten years ago but still carried on the store at Nanticoke until about two years ago when he sold out to his son Eugene who now carries on the business. The funeral will probably take place Tuesday afternoon with interment in Hanover Green cemetery. He leaves an estate valued at \$300,000.



**The Year Without a Summer.**

The RECORD desires to elicit some details from its readers as to the famous "cold summer" of 1816. Some of our readers can recall that year from their own memories, while others have heard the story as it was told.

On the 18th of August, 1896, Mrs. A. drew Raub died in Luzerne Borough at the advanced age of 95 years. In the RECORD's biographical sketch of this venerable mother appeared the following reference to the famous "cold summer":

"Her husband, who came from New Jersey to visit friends in Wyoming Valley was wont to tell his children ever afterwards about that visit, for it was during the cold summer of 1816—a year when every month had its frost. He used to say that in June there was a snow storm which bore heavily upon the wheat, then in bloom; that many of the farmers took clothes lines and scraped the snow from the bending grain; that those who did this lost their crops, while the ones who trusted to nature had no harm come to their grain; and that when the harvest finally came the farm hands went to the fields wearing their great coats."

The following reminiscence of that remarkable year is credited to Mr. Abram Runyon, the venerable father of Chancellor Runyon, which he recently wrote to a friend at Plainfield, N. J.:

"In the year 1816 there was a sharp frost in every month. It was known as the 'year without a summer.' The farmers used to refer to it as 'eighteen hundred and starve to death.' In May ice formed half an inch thick, buds and flowers were frozen and corn killed. Frost, and ice and snow were common in June; almost every green thing was killed, and the fruit was nearly all destroyed. Snow fell to the depth of three inches in New York and Massachusetts, and ten inches in Maine. July was accompanied with frost and ice. On the 5th ice was formed of the thickness of window glass in New York, New England and Pennsylvania. In August ice formed half an inch thick. A cold Northern wind prevailed nearly all summer. Corn was so frozen that a great deal of it was cut down and dried for fodder. Very little ripened in New England, and scarcely any in the Middle States, and farmers were obliged to pay \$4 and \$5 a bushel for corn of 1815, for seed for the next spring's planting."

**The Cold Summer of 1816.**

EDITOR RECORD: You ask for reminiscences of the "cold summer" of 1816. That year was a sorry time for farmers and all others that tried to raise crops of any kind, as well as for consumers who were obliged

to purchase provisions or any of the necessaries of life. Wages of the laboring classes were not high in proportion to the cost of living. It was a hard time for the poor. For two months of that summer there were three black spots on the sun, plainly visible to the naked eye; the weather most of the time was so cool that woolen apparel was absolutely necessary for comfort. There were severe frosts several nights during each summer month, and the small amount of corn that got through to the month of September, and was then in the milk state, was entirely frozen and killed, and the ears of corn in the husks became rotten. The stench was so offensive that people would avoid passing a cornfield when the wind was toward them. Cattle would not eat the stalks until the rotten ears were taken off. It was said, and probably truthfully, that not a bushel of sound corn was raised in Luzerne County that season. Nor were there any fruit or garden vegetables raised that frost could kill. But during these privations of the people, they had one comfort, there was the greatest run of shad up the Susquehanna River that Spring that was ever before or since known. The shad fishery was on the west side of the river, opposite the mouth of Mill Creek. The shad seine of the fishery was owned by a company of men from both sides of the river; my father owned a share and I, although a boy of only 13 years, was boss of the Brail Canoe; there were in the upper end of the fishery, about ten rods from the west shore, two large stones or rocks, over which the sinker line had to be raised by lifting the Brail of the sinker line and keeping it up till the rocks were passed. This was my part of the duties of the fishery. Some days not a shad could be caught, some other days a few, or perhaps a few hundred would be taken, but on one day three thousand shad were hauled in at that fishery. I will not attempt to describe the fun and frolic of throwing the shad out of the water on to the beach when they were hauled near the shore in the shallow water by the seine. It was rare sport.

DILTON YARINGTON.

Carbondale, March 15, 1837.

The *Scranton Truth* has begun the publication of a series of sketches of Early Days in the Lackawanna Valley, written especially for that paper by the historian and antiquarian, Dr. H. Hollister, who is well and favorably known by RECORD readers.

The *Carbondale Leader* says that "the Wilkes-Barre RECORD is the historical paper of this region and that it is doing good work in rescuing from oblivion many of the incidents of local history connected with the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valleys."

## WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

Critical and Historical Survey — Early Writers and Published Books of Verse.

## PART FIRST.

To give a critical and historical analysis of the poetry of the Wyoming Valley, necessitates the exploring of a hitherto unwritten department of local literature. Mr. John S. McGroarty, in his *Poets and Poetry of Wyoming Valley*, gives selections from the better known versifiers, but no critical or historical reminiscences. For this brief survey I have taken possession of many widely scattered facts and have endeavored to mould them into a history of Wyoming Valley poetry; and, while I have admired the songs of our native writers and made the touch of the critical finger somewhat gentle, I have sought to point out the powers and limitations of the singers and emphasize their imperfections.

More than a hundred years have passed since the first local writers began to drink inspiration from the beauties of this historic valley and to pour forth their intoxication with sparkling emotions of poetic rancy. It was in 1785 that Uriah Terry wrote his "Wyoming Massacre;" in 1810 that Charles F. Wells wrote the "Warriors of Wyoming," and in 1812 that James Sinton wrote the "Poor Man and the Doctor." Edward Chapman, Charles Miner, and Josiah Wright helped to swell the flood of local verse during the opening years of the present century, but their rhymes contain little merit and can scarcely be called poetry. The published verses of Amos Slaty, Andrew Beaumont, A. T. Lee, Sarah Miner and Charles Mowery evince a degree of poetic talent, though unequal and faulty in finish.

The *Literary Visitor*, established at Wilkes-Barre in 1813, served as a medium of communication for the early writers of this section. It was royal octavo size, a weekly journal, and published by Stenben Butler. The *Visitor* was primarily a literary periodical, and the editor, in the salutatory of the initial number, assures his readers that the paper will be devoted to every department of knowledge "which can be considered useful, interesting, or amusing to all classes of readers—biographical sketches of the most important personages of America and Europe—anecdotes of wit and humor—important facts in the history of nature—remarkable events in the history of nations—the finest flights of the muse—the selected beauties of ancient and modern eloquence—such essays as will instruct correctly in morality and duty, in education, science and the arts; and these selected from the best writers, will appear in a dress calculated to form a correct taste in

English composition." He also informs his readers that "the great part of the paper, instead of being occupied with advertisements which are useful only to a few men of business, will be filled with such a diversity of matter, that it can hardly fail of obtaining a welcome reception from every reader." This promise was well kept. It contained no advertisements during the two years that it existed, and was the principal market for the wares of the early Wyoming Valley writers.

*The Frontier Maid, or a Tale of Wyoming*, was the first poetical volume published here. It was a metrical romance of two hundred pages written by Joseph McCoy and published at Wilkes-Barre in 1819 by Samuel Maffet & Stenben Butler. It is a narrative of the massacre of Wyoming, has ten or a dozen prominent characters, is divided into five cantos, and has an appendix of nineteen pages of notes explaining the geographical and historical allusions of the poem. Mature years painfully revealed to the author the defects of the poem and he subsequently collected and burned all the copies he could get. Although characterized for its inequalities and absurdities, *The Frontier Maid* is not wholly without merit. Here and there a line can be found having the genuine poetic ring. Mr. McCoy was, of course, too deficient in constructive art to elaborate a well sustained narrative; but had he been less ambitious and given more finish to what he undertook, he might have written clever verses.

*The Harp of the Beech Woods*, by Juliana Frances Turner, was published at Montrose in 1822 by Adam Waldie. The selections are chiefly lyrical, of which "My Home in the Beech Woods" is perhaps the best. "Evening," a dainty pastoral, is a poem of remarkable purity and simplicity; and "The Humming Bird" and "Happiness at Home" are delicate and picturesque descriptive lyrics. The volume contains a dozen sonnets which detract from the merit of the book, since the author evidently knew little or nothing of the mechanical construction of the sonnet. The sonnet "To a Mother" is rich in sentiment; and in the one on "My Rhymes" she displays a genuine sense of refined humor.

The Wyoming Monument, "A Poem by the Un-Native Bard of Wyoming," was published at Wilkes-Barre in 1841 by Anthony P. Brower, the author, and dedicated to the Ladies' Monumental Association of Wilkes-Barre. It is an attempt at lyric poetry, but has no merit, whatever, and teems with the eccentricities which characterized its author. About the only redeeming feature of the book is the twelve page appendix of explanatory notes. A receipt for the price of the book, in the bard's own handwriting, was

attached to the first page of each copy sold.

Richard Drinker and Edward E. Le Clerc were both writers of meritorious verse. Mr. Drinker's "Address to a Land Tortoise," published in *Chandler's Magazine* of Philadelphia, in 1819, shows him to have been possessed of a rich sense of humor combined with all the fervor of a true poet. "Christmas," after the style of Burns, is humorous, witty and genial. His poems are wanting in deep pathos and originality of thought, but are distinguished for their vigorous common sense and unique execution. Edward E. LeClerc, another writer of clever verse, possessed the divine gift of so good to a remarkable degree. His best poem, "The Massacre of Wyoming," was read at the commencement exercises of Dickinson College in July, 1839, and subsequently published in *Godey's Lady Book*. This, and the poem on the death of his friend, Lieut. James Monroe Bowman, represents him at his best, although in all his writings he displays an exquisite sense of rhythm and a remarkable instinct in the choice of words. —*Wm S. Monroe in Scranton Saturday Argus.*

#### History and Science in Scranton.

The Lackawanna Institute of History and Science has completed the first year of its existence. Its library comprises 365 bound volumes, 175 pamphlets and 3 maps and manuscripts. The museum has 371 catalogued specimens. In his annual report Curator C. L. Wheeler has the following:

I have prepared a catalogue of the coal flora fossils of this valley and find that forty-eight genera and three hundred and forty-eight species have been found and described. After consultation with Mr. R. D. Looce, and by his advice I have divided the valley into six districts, to be called respectively the Carbondale, Olyphant, Scranton, Pittston, Wilkes Barre and Plymouth districts. In the two or three lower veins worked at Carbondale Mr. Clarkson found twenty-six species. Olyphant, which shows the work of two or three good collections, has afforded a hundred and one species. A result of very little collecting gives Plymouth twenty-eight. Wilkes Barre has yielded one hundred and seven. Pittston, through the earnest work of so able a palæobotanist as Mr. R. D. Looce, comes to the front with two hundred and forty-five species. Scranton, with her five or six veins of coal covering everything from the inter conglomerate up through the coal measure with her broad valley and the great quantities of slate exposed, has afforded only thirty-nine species to the scientific world. Surely, here is a virgin field for our infant Institute to cultivate.

#### West Branch Local History.

We are pleased to announce a new publication devoted to the history of the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna, the Juniata region, and the Northwestern counties of our State. It will be published by Mr. John F. Meginness, of Williamsport, who for many years has edited the leading daily paper of that city, and who some 30 years ago wrote a charming history of the West Branch region, under the title of "Otzinachson." We append the prospectus which Mr. Meginness is sending out, knowing that it will interest many readers on the North Branch, both regions having much in common, pertaining to their early history.

The *Historical Journal*: A monthly magazine for preserving fragments of local history in Northwestern Pennsylvania.—I have often been solicited to start a monthly Historical Magazine, for the purpose of collecting and preserving scraps of Local History which will soon be lost forever. Yielding to these solicitations, I now propose to start such a publication, and will issue the first number about the first of May. It will contain thirty two octavo pages, in magazine form, and be neatly printed on fine paper.

The opening feature of each number will be a Biographical Sketch of some prominent deceased person—with portrait—or some old person living. Special attention will be given to the collection of Historical Incidents of Early Times, Reminiscences of Pioneers, Indian Antiquities, Necrology, Longevity, Statistics, Manufactures, and curious things.

Since publishing the History of the West Branch Valley, more than thirty years ago, and especially during my editorial service on the *Gazette and Bulletin* for eighteen years, I have gathered a large amount of material that would be valuable if put in a magazine for preservation. This publication will not interfere with the proposed revised History of the West Branch Valley, as the bulk of the matter it will contain cannot be used in that book, only in the briefest form, and in the majority of cases not at all.

An opportunity is now afforded those who are interested in the preservation of bits of Local History to aid in the enterprise. The *Historical Journal* will be printed with a view to binding, and twelve numbers will make a handsome volume of 384 pages. The subscription price will be \$2 per annum, of twelve numbers, payable in advance.

A biographical sketch of Rev. John Bryson, with portrait, who was pastor of Warrior Run Presbyterian Church, Northumberland County, for over half a century, will be the opening article in the first number.

## TWO UNPUBLISHED LETTERS.

**How Fort Allen, Now Allentown, was Provisioned 131 Years Ago—How Easton Looked to the Pioneers of 1752.**

The following unpublished letter, bearing upon the early history of Northeastern Pennsylvania, are kindly sent the RECORD by Charles F. Hill, of Hazleton, whose contributions are always welcome:

**EDITOR RECORD:** I herewith communicate a letter, which I believe has never appeared in print. It is from Jacob Levan, Esq., of Maxatawney, Berks County, Pa., to Major William Parsons at Easton, Pa. Jacob Levan, Esq., was a justice of the peace, a judge and father of Jacob and Col. Sebastian Levan, of the Revolutionary army, and also a member of the Supreme Executive Council. Major Parsons was surveyor general of the province, and resigned on account of ill health in June, 1748, was appointed a justice of the peace, removed to Easton in 1752, and as major had the military charge of that section. In connection with the letter of Jacob Levan, Esq., we will also give a letter from Major Parsons to Richard Peters, Esq., giving a description of Easton as it appeared Dec. 8, 1752:

MAXATAWNEY, November 8, 1756.

MY KIND SERVICE AND GREETING

TO YOU SIR AND MAJOR WILLIAM PARSONS:

I am constrained to write you a few lines in as much as I have provisioned Fort Allen since spring and have had much labor and trouble by day and night; and have furnished everything, in quantities, that they needed, so that Captain Reynolds was well satisfied with me. And now since I have gone to heavy coats, and have bought wheat and fat cattle to provision the Fort again, Adam Deschler and Paul Balliet have assumed to provision the Fort, and have told me I should furnish no more provision; that they had made a written agreement with the Commissary, and offered to furnish provision for 6 pence less per man per week than formerly, which I am also willing to do as well as another. Sir William Parsons as Major has already once, on my account, given himself the trouble to write to the Commissary that I should provision the Fort, hence I ask him yet once more, since I cannot go there myself, as for several weeks I have been confined to my bed, else I would appear in person before him, and— and speak face to face to him.

I remain his most obedient friend and well-wisher.

JACOB LEVAN.

EASTON, December 8th, 1752.

RICH. PETERS, ESQ., Sir: Upon removing my family to this Place my Thoughts have been more engaged in considering the circumstances of this Infant Town than ever,

as well with regard to its neighborhood, as the Probability there is of its being furnished with Provisions from the Inhabitants near about it, and if there already is, or probably may in time be, a sufficient number of settlers to carry on any considerable Trade with the Town. For without these it is not likely that it will be improved to any great height, as well with Regard to the Town itself, that is to say its Situation, as to Health, Trade and Pleasantry. Easton is situate in the Fork of the River Delaware, exactly in that Part of the Fork where the two main Branches meet, and is bounded on the South by the West Branch, and on the East with the main Branch of the River which runs in this Place, nearly North and South, about 120 Perches to the very pleasant brook of water, called Tattamy's Creek, which bounds the town to the north. On the west it is bounded by a pretty high hill that runs nearly parallel to and at the distance of 130 perches from the main branch. The site of the town is pleasant and very agreeable; the banks of all the waters bounding it are high and clean, and if it was as large again as it is, being now about 100 acres, it might be said to be a very beautiful place for a town. It is true that it is surrounded on every side by very high hills, which make it appear under some disadvantages at a distance, and might give some occasion for suspicion of its not being very healthy. But during all the last summer, which was very dry, and the fall, which has been remarkably wet, I don't know that any one has been visited with the fever or any other sickness, notwithstanding most of the people have been much exposed to the night air and wet weather. From whence I make no difficulty to conclude the place is and will continue very healthy. As to the external advantages or disadvantages of the town, I am not yet sufficiently acquainted with the country to enumerate them all. The most conspicuous are the adjacent rivers. The main branch in some seasons of the year is navigable for small craft, from near 100 miles above the town to Philadelphia, and if it were cleared in some places of the rocks which impede the navigation in the summer season, above as well as below the town, (and I have been told that it is practicable in some good measure to clear them,) the advantage that would accrue from the trade to and from Philadelphia, must be very considerable, as water carriage is much cheaper, and, in respect to several kinds of merchandise goods, much safer than land carriage. And in regard to the trade up the river, that would likewise be very advantageous to the town, as well as to the country in general, even in the single article of lumber, as there is great

plenty of almost all kinds of timber over the mountains, where there is also many good conveniences for erecting saw mills, and several are built there already. From whence the town might readily be supplied with boards, scantling &c. The West Branch will also be of advantage to the town, as it is navigable several miles for small craft. And Tattam's Creek being a good stream of water to erect mills upon, will also contribute towards the advancement of the place. The Jersey side being at present more settled near the river, opposite to the forks, than the Pennsylvania side, and indeed the land on that side is better watered and more convenient for settlements, than it is on this side for several miles about Easton. We have been supplied as much or more from that side, as from our own. But how Mr. John Cox's project of laying out a town upon his land adjoining Mr. Martin's land, is hard to say, and time only can obviate. But notwithstanding the advantages already mentioned, and perhaps many have escaped my notice, it must be confessed that the town labours under several considerable disadvantages. The first that offers, I mention with submission, is the great tract of land called the dry land, to the westward of the town. This with another tract adjoining the town to the Northward, being all together about 20,000 acres, is almost the only part of the country that, by its nearness to the town, were it settled and improved, could conveniently and readily afford a constant supply of provisions of all kinds, especially the smaller kinds which would not be so convenient for persons who live more remote to furnish. To the westward and northward of the dry land are the Moravian settlements, about eleven miles from the town. These settlements are not only of no advantage, but rather a great disadvantage to the town. For being an entire and separate interest by themselves, corresponding with only one another where they can possibly avoid it, except where the advantage is evidently in their favour, it can't be expected that the town should reap any benefit from them. Besides, as they have not hitherto raised, and as their number is continually increasing by the yearly addition of foreigners, it is not likely that they will, in time to come, raise sufficient provision for themselves, but are obliged to purchase great quantities from their neighbours, who would otherwise bring it to the town, but this is not to be expected while they can dispose of what they have to sell so much nearer home. And this leads me to wish, for the good of Easton, if the honorable the proprietaries should incline to have the dry lands improved, that it may not be disposed of to the Moravians. Not be-

cause they are Moravians, but because their interest interferes so much with the interest of the town. If the dry lands should be settled chiefly by them, the master brethren would have the whole direction and disposal of all that should be raised there. Which would be more discouraging and worse to the town, than if that land were not inhabited at all. For so long as it remains uncultivated, it will serve for range to the town cattle. Between the town and the mountains, which is about 16 miles, is mostly poor land, and but thin settled. The other side of the mountain consists chiefly of new settlements, except the Minisinks and some other plantations near the river. But very probably in the time they will contribute to the advancement and Trade of the Town. On the South Side of the West Branch, the Country is the most and best settled, except near the Town, where the Land is very hilly and stony. Upon the whole, the Town has hitherto been very well supplied with Meal, Pork, Mutton, Butter, Turnips, &c. But how it will be supplied with Hay and Pasturage, I can't yet clearly foresee. I mean if the Town increases, as I am in great hopes it will. For this winter, I think we are pretty well provided. However, this leads me to mention Out Lots, which will be more particularly wanted here than at any of the other new County Towns, as they are all of them much better accommodated with Meadow Ground, near about them, than this Town is. If I might presume to speak my Opinion, and I know you expect I should, if I speak at all. I could wish that a sufficient Quantity of the dry Lands might be appropriated for Out Lots, and that all the Rest were to be settled and improved, and that, by Dutch People; altho' they were of the poorest sort of them. I don't mention Dutch People from any particular regard that I have for them more than any other People. But because they are generally more laborious and conformable to their circumstances, than some others amongst us are. I need not say who they are, but it is an old observation, that poor Gentle Folks don't always prove the fittest to begin new Places, where Labour is chiefly wanted.

I can't hear of any considerable Body of Clay for making Bricks or Potters Work, upon any of the Proprietary's land near the Town, but upon the 500 Acre Tract which was surveyed for Mr. Thomas Craig, near the Town, I am told there is very good Clay, both for a Potter and Brickmaker. The 500 acres belongs now to one Correy, in Chester County, I wrote to you about it very largely in a former Letter. There is now eleven Families in Easton, who all propose to stay there this Winter. And when our Prison is finished, which there is Hopes it soon will be,

as it is now covered in, there is great probability that the number will increase before the Spring. I am, Sir, Your obedient, humble Servant,

WM. PARSONS.

Iudorsed—"Copy Wm. Parson's letter to R. P. about Easton of the 8 peer, 1852. Original sent to Propr. Cann Browne, in Lre, of mine, the 15th Decr, 1752."

**An Old-Time Masonic Record.**  
[Montrose Republican.]

In a record which has been preserved of the old Rising Sun Lodge, No. 149, the first Masonic Lodge ever known in Montrose, instituted about 1816, is to be found the proceeding of a regular stated meeting, held in the old court house, May 30, 1825, at which the following were the officers and brethren present. Of all these *not one is now living*, excepting the one who was made a member at that meeting, it being some three weeks after he became of age; and he happens to be the last one who was initiated in that lodge previous to its being disbanded; though his name may be found as Junior Warden among the charter members of Warren Lodge, No. 240, instituted in 1849, and now existing here.

Among these departed brethren may be seen the names of the old centenarian Luther Catlin, who died some two years ago, at the age of a little over a hundred years, and of Dr. Horace Smith, the last survivor of them, who left us last June, aged 87.

Officers of the "Rising Sun Lodge," No. 149—Perez Perkins, W. maater; Dr. Samuel A. Bissell, S. warden; Wm. C. Turrell, J. warden; Horace Smith, treasurer; Hiram Finch, secretary; Harry Clark, S. D.; Hiram Plum, J. D.; Jabez A. Burchard, tiler.

Members present—James Lathrop, Ira Gage, David O. Turrell, David Bissell, Erastus Catlin, Luther Catlin, Asa Olmstead, Daniel Curtis, Dr. Mason Denison, George Claggett, Henry Parka.

Accepted and initiated—James W. Chapman.

Visitors—Charles R. Marsh, Jesse Bagley, Peter Osborn, Isaiah Main, James Stephens, Benoni Austin, John Pasmore.

Many of the readers of the *Republican* will recognize in the *now* sole survivor of the above, the old surveyor, the editor of forty or fifty years ago, more recently known as County Judge; and they may perhaps be interested to know that he is yet quite vigorous and active, though now in his 83d year, walks *plum*, performs on the *level* and *square* with his *compass*, and can follow ancient *land-marks*, or solve a mathematical problem as well as ever; and withal is vivacious enough to appreciate a good joke or tell a good story, if required.

**Wyoming Pioneers in Binghamton.**

In a rare volume, "Annals of Binghamton," published at that place in 1840, by J. B. Wilkinson, (a copy of which is in the possession of W. A. Wilcox, Esq., Wyoming) are numerous references to Wyoming and its people. Condensed, they are as follows:

First white settler, Capt. Joseph Leonard, moved from Wyoming 1787. Left on account of land disputes. Was a farmer at Wyoming, at time of massacre.

Reference to one Cole, early settler near Binghamton. Very inhuman—said to have had part in leading the Indians against Wyoming and Minisink.

Tom Hill, a pauper, also engaged in massacre. Said to have married Queen Esther. Flour brought up in canoes from Wyoming.

In 1789 Jonathan Fitch, of Wyoming, merchant and sheriff there, settled near Binghamton. Was first representative from Tioga in Legislature.

Capt. Brink came from Wyoming. Lost all by the great ice freshet. Was one of Plunkett's men.

Moses Chambers settled 1790. Came from Wyoming, was a sufferer by ice freshet. His father moved from Wyoming to Binghamton with his three sons.

Narrative of Mrs. Elisha Matthewson, a prisoner at Wyoming, and her escape.

Settlers between Wellsburgh and Elmira: Libbens Tubbs, Rufus Baldwin, Wm. Jenkins, Libbens Hammond, of Wyoming. Hammond's narrative.

Below Wellsburgh, Elder John Goff, the first minister of that region—a Baptist. Came from Wyoming and settled on Chemung flats in 1786.

First settler at Elmira, Col. John Handy. Was from Wyoming.

Judge Gore and Gen. Spalding rented the lands lying between the Pennsylvania line on the south, the pre-emption line on the west, the two lakes on the north, and the Chemung narrows on the east, for 99 years.

Philip Wells came from Wyoming. Also Henry Richards.

**Probably Our Oldest Subscriber.**

LOOK HAVEN, PA., March 18, 1837.—EDITOR RECORD OF THE TIMES: Please find enclosed one dollar, payment for the WEEKLY RECORD for another year's subscription, for I can't do without it. This being the fiftieth year of my subscription. I hope to make it a half century.

D. B. POLAND.

[Mr. Poland is a manufacturer and wholesale dealer in foreign fruits, nuts, etc. If there is any one on our list who took the RECORD as long ago as 1837 we shall be glad to mention the fact in these columns. Ed.]

## MR YARINGTON'S LIST.

Some of the Descendants of the Wilkes-Barre Business Men of 1818—Some Interesting Facts.

[In the last issue of the *Historical Record* appeared an article by Dilton Yarrington, of Carbondale, giving a list of about 250 citizens of Wilkes-Barre in 1818, together with their occupations. The list, which was prepared in 1868 from memory, was reprinted from the *WEEKLY RECORD* of that year. The appended communication has reference to the living descendants of the people included by Mr. Yarrington in his list.—Ed.]

EDITOR RECORD: I have read with considerable interest your list of names of the business men of Wilkes-Barre in 1818, as given by Esquire Yarrington, and as a sort of continuation of the same subject, herewith send you the names of a few of the descendants, (all living unless otherwise specified) together with some facts in regard to their subsequent history as I remember them:

Philip Abbott was the father of Philip Abbott, now of St. Paul, Minn.

H. C. Ambiser, father of Joseph Ambiser and Mrs. F. Koerner.

Ziba Bennett, father of George S. Bennett and Mrs. J. C. Phelps.

John L. Butler, father of Mrs. Judge Woodward and Frank Butler.

Stenben Butler, father of C. E. Butler, Mrs. Alex. Shiras and the late Wm. H. Butler.

Pierce Butler, father of Pierce Butler, of Carbondale, and Mrs. Mary Reynolds, of Kingtown.

Zebulon Butler, father of sons and daughters, none living here.

Jonathan Bulkeley, father of C. L. Bulkeley and Mrs. A. R. Brundage.

Anthony Brower, father of Mrs. Alderman W. S. Parsons.

Isaac Bowman, father of Col. Sam and Miss Mary Bowman.

Andrew Beaumont, father of Col. E. B. Beaumont, U. S. A., and Mrs. Julia Gloninger, of Lebanon.

Job Barton, father of C. P. Barton, Lebanon.

Orietas Collins, father of Rev. Charles Jewett Collins.

George Chahoon, father of Miss Ann Chahoon and Mrs. Josiah Lewis.

Anning O. Chahoon, father of Joseph Slocum Chahoon.

Daniel Collings, father of Mrs. Julia Dougherty, Mrs. J. N. Davidson and Miss Eliza Collings.

Henry Colt, father of Henry Colt, Allentown.

Isaac A. Chapman, father of C. I. A. Chapman, Pittston.

Jacob Cist, father of Mrs. H. Wright and Mrs. A. T. McClintock.

Francis Dana, father of Mrs. J. R. Coolbaugh and Mrs. Wm. T. Rhoads.

Bateman Downing, father of Reuben Downing.

J. J. Dennis, father of Capt. J. P. Dennis. John Davis, father of John and the late Mary Ann Davis.

James Ely, father of Thomas Ely, Kingstown.

George Haines, father of Mrs. V. L. Maxwell.

James Hancock, father of Maj. E. A., of Philadelphia, and D. P. Hancock, of Peoria, Illa.

George Hotchkiss, father of Mrs. T. W. Robinson.

Dr. L. W. Jones, father of Mrs. Thomas Wilson.

J. P. Johnson, father of William P. Johnson, of Dallas, and Wesley Johnson, of this city.

John Jameson, father of Mrs. E. B. Collings and Mrs. John Chahoon.

Amasa Jones, father of Joel and Joseph Jones, of Philadelphia.

Lewis Ketcham, father of the late W. W. Ketcham.

Gilbert Laird, father of J. D. Laird, Glover Laird and Mrs. Joseph Easterline.

Josiah Lewis, father of Josiah Lewis.

H. F. Lamb, father of Miss Mary Lamb.

Peter P. Loop, father of Edward Sterling and John Millard Loop.

Charles M. Mener, father of Wm. P. Miner and Mrs. Jesse Thomas.

Samuel Maffet, father of Wm. R. Maffet. Simon Monega, father of C. B. Monega and Mrs. P. R. Johnson.

Benjamin Perry, father of Misses Perry, Northampton Street.

Archippus Parrish, father of Chas. and G. H. Parrish and Mrs. F. W. Hunt.

Joseph Slocum, father of Mrs. Abi Butler. Geo. Sively, father of Mrs. Judge Pfouts.

Abram Thomas, father of Mrs. Washington Lee.

E. Taylor, father of John, Thomas and Edmund Taylor and Mrs. E. H. Chase.

Phineas Waller, father of Rev. David J. Waller, Bloomsburg.

Luther Yarrington, father of Thomas O. Yarrington, Reading.

Peter Yarrington, father of Dilton Yarrington, Carbondale.

John P. Arndt removed with his family to Green Bay, Wisconsin, at an early day and left no descendants here, but he and his sons were men of mark in the pioneer days of the Territory. One son was drowned in the Susquehanna before he left Wilkes-Barre and another was shot dead by a fellow member on the floor of the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin. Amasa Jones, father of Joel and Joseph Jones, had lost a leg, and as they had no cork legs in those days he walk-

ed about with a wooden one, and always appeared on the street in a flowing calico wrapper. The boys called him "Peg Leg Jones;" his business was that of making brooms and distilling pyroligneous acid, which was called "essence of smoke," in common parlance. It was used for flavoring hams, dried beef, etc., by sprinkling a few drops on the slices instead of smoking the meat in the usual way. The son Joel became a distinguished judge of the District Court of Philadelphia, while Joseph a Presbyterian divine of high repute, preached the word of God in the old 6th Church on Pine Street for many years.

Jesse Fell was proprietor of an ancient hostelry on Northampton Street still known as the "Old Fell House." It was here Lodge No. 61, F. & A. M., held its initiatory communication in or about the year 1794; and it was here also that the feasibility of burning anthracite coal in an open grate was first demons rated in 1807.

The Moses Wood mentioned was an Englishman by birth and brought with him to this country a considerable amount of English gold and a large family of sons and daughters, now all dead I think except Isaac Wood, of Trenton, N. J. John G. and George B. Wood, of this city, are grandsons of Moses.

It is said that Mrs. President Garfield is a granddaughter of Jacob Rudolph. There are no sons or daughters of David Scott now living, but E. Greenough Scott, Esq., and Rev. Charles H. Kidder are grandsons of the judge.

George Denison had two sons, Henry M. and George; one of them, an Episcopal clergyman, married a daughter of President John Tyler. Ralph D. Lacey, of Pittston, is a grandson of Francis Du Puy.

Gen. E. L. Dana is a grandson of Anderson Dana.

Joseph Davis was never married, he became insane and shot and killed a man named Diebel on Hazle Street; was acquitted on the ground of insanity and spent the remainder of his days in an insane asylum.

Barnet Ulp was grandfather of the Misses Alexander, of River Street. Gilbert Barnes was grandfather of Stewart L. and Albert Barnes, court crier.

Abram Pike was the father of Hannah Porter who several years ago was accidentally shot in the hand and arm by a then young member of the bar while gunning for squirrels in the timber growing along the river in the Kingston side, opposite this city. Joshua Miner was grandfather of Dr. J. L. Miner, of this city.

Dr. G. W. Trott was grandfather of Judge Stanley Woodward.

It is not to be presumed that the parties

whose names are mentioned in the list all lived within our present city limits. Wilkes-Barre at that time extended from Hanover on the south, to Pittston on the north, and the occupation of the major portion of persons named was farming. Esquire Yarrington is undoubtedly correct so far as his list extends, but it seems to me that he has left a wide gap in the upper part of Wilkes-Barre Township. My memory does not go back as far as 1818 by several years, but I know many old citizens who must have lived there at that time whose names are not on the list. For instance, there was Benjamin Courtright, farmer, father of John M., and James Courtright, of this city. "Uncle Fritz Wagner," farmer, and next to him James Stark, farmer and merchant, father of Henry and John M. Stark, of West Pittston; John Stark on Mill Creek, farmer, father of John Stark, Mrs. G. M. Miller and Mrs. O. A. Parsons, Cornelius Stark, father of Col. B. F. Stark, of this city; Crandall Wilcox, farmer who owned the place, afterwards property of John Searl, and his son Samuel Wilcox, who worked the mines at Mill Creek slope; Thomas Williams farmer, who owned the now John Mitchell place, and his sons Thomas, Ezra, and George W. Williams; Thomas Osborne, laborer, Punkin Hollow, great grandfather of the Misses Wildoner of this city; Stephen Abbott farmer and his son John Abbott, father of the Misses Cassie and Lucy Abbott of this city, Benjamin Pailey, tanner and carrier at the Corners; Cornelius or Case Courtright shoemaker, Hiram Post, laborer, Thomas, Joslyn laborer, whose son Thomas was the first man killed in the mines in this coal region; Thomas Woolley, farmer who raised a large family of sons and daughters; Matthias Hollenback miller. "Crazy Matt" so-called, as his mental infirmity required that he be restrained of his liberty for many years previous to his death; George Dickover mason and plasterer, father of William Dickover of this city; Hezekiah Parsons of Laurel Run, farmer and manufacturer, father of Calvin Parsons, and Stephen Gould, father of the Goulds who were active business men on the Lehigh, lived on the back road above Mr. Parsons' place, and others probably as the upper portion of Wilkes-Barre was well settled at that time.

W. J.

#### Eighty-Eight Years Old.

The Pittston *Gazette* says that Hon. D. S. Koon and daughters and Mrs. C. E. Bennett left for Tunkhaunock, where they were to celebrate the 88th birthday of Mrs. Koon's sister, Mrs. Maria Swartz, on March 27. All the other members of the family were expected to be present, including relatives from Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.



### DEATH OF JOSEPH BROWN.

**The Ex-Banker Passes Quietly Away After an Illness of Less Than a Week's Duration.**

The familiar form of Joseph Brown will no longer be seen on our streets. The RECORD had announced that Mr. Brown was indisposed and confined to his house, but no one outside of his family and a few intimate friends, supposed that he was seriously ill. On March 19 he complained of feeling unwell, but attended to business the same as usual. On Monday March 21 he told his wife that he was feeling much better and went up to his office. In the evening, after returning to his home, he was seized with a violent pain in the region of the heart and fainted away. His family were greatly alarmed. Dr. Mayer was summoned in haste and upon his arrival found Mr. Brown in an unconscious state with the pulse beating at 160. On Tuesday the patient seemed to rally a little, but Dr. Mayer saw the case was hopeless. The heart had refused to do its work. There were also indications of pneumonia, but not of a dangerous character. Mr. Brown continued to sink slowly until five minutes of seven last Thursday when death relieved him of his sufferings. He was surrounded by his family and a few immediate friends.

Seventy-one years ago, the second day of March, Joseph Brown first saw the light of day in a little town in the north of Ireland. At the early age of 20 he bade farewell to home and friends and set sail for America to make his fortune. Like a great many others of his class young Brown did not find the road to fortune and fame in the new country a very smooth one, but he was possessed of an indomitable perseverance, backed with a determination that he must succeed. To this is due his success in after life. In 1838 the poor boy from the north of Ireland was earning a dollar a day in a coal mine at Summit Hill, Carbon County. He was one of the few laborers of that early day who could read and write and his services were always in demand by his less fortunate collaborators who were wont to communicate with their friends in the old country. As a letter writer he was a great success and it is unnecessary to say that his services did not go unrewarded. After a year or so spent in the mines Mr. Brown went boating on the Lehigh Canal, running between Mauch Chunk and Philadelphia. He did not like this occupation, however, and in 1840 or thereabouts he removed to Wilkes-Barre. For two or three years he lived with John McCarragher and then went into the lumber business in partnership with John Faser.

The firm prospered and Mr. Brown saved his money. Thinking there was more money in the grocery than the lumber business, the new firm of Brown & Wilson was formed, who conducted a general mercantile business on West Market Street, where the Brown bank building now stands. Mr. Brown always thought he would make a successful banker, and with this object in view he associated himself with Alex. McLean, Alex. Gray, John Faser, Thomas Wilson, F. W. Hunt and others in the incorporation of the First National Bank of this city, which is to-day one of the soundest institutions of the kind in the State. Afterwards Mr. Brown, in company with Alexander Gray, went into the private banking business. The bank was successful until the downfall of the New York banking firm of Henry Clews & Co., with whom Brown's bank had large dealings. This was in 1873, the bank losing \$52,000 with Clews, \$3,000 with Jay Cooke & Co., and \$7,000 with the Union Banking Co. of Philadelphia, in all about \$63,000. Mr. Brown endeavored to bear up under this misfortune and succeeded in doing so for five years, having made a settlement with his creditors. The pressure finally proved too strong, and on May 18, 1878 the bank again closed its doors, never to open them again. Abram H. Reynolds was made assignee. The net liabilities were about \$145,000, and the net assets about \$96,000. For a time there was great indignation, but the sequel showed that Mr. Brown had not failed rich but was a poor man. Mr. Brown then went into the real estate business, in which he was engaged up to the time of his death.

Mr. Brown was blessed with a geniality of soul that, in spite of his financial misfortunes, made a host of friends for him. He was a good citizen, a kind husband and a loving father.

In 1850 deceased married Miss Annie Gray, daughter of Alex. Gray, of this city, and eight children were the result of the union, only three of whom survive—Alex. G., who is engaged in the seed business in Philadelphia, and Miss Emma and Miss Edith, who reside at home. Matthew Brown, a brother of the ex-banker, is engaged in farming in the vicinity of Harvey's Lake. Two other brothers, John and James, reside in Missouri, the former being a minister of the gospel. Mr. Brown was a Republican in politics and a member of Memorial Church.

All that was mortal of the late Joseph Brown was laid away in Hellenback Cemetery Monday, March 28. A large number of friends met at the family residence, including a notable number of old citizens, deceased having been a resident of Wilkes-Barre for 50 years. The services were conducted by Rev. C. R. Gregory, pastor of de-

ceased, assisted by Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. Dr. Parke. The pall bearers were W. W. Loomis, W. S. Parsons, T. J. Chase, B. G. Carpenter, Isaiah M. Leach, and Samuel Roberts.

#### Christian Conrad's Fatal Injury.

On March 18, Christian Conrad, a well-known miner of this city, 52 years of age, was injured by a fall of top rock in the Hollenback, from the effects of which he died March 29, after an amount of suffering that must have made death welcome. His hip was fractured and there were extensive internal injuries. Mr. Conrad came to Wilkes-Barre from Germany in 1855, since which time he held several responsible positions as mine boss—at the old Landmesser breaker, the Newport breaker, the Empire and the Moccasin. It was during his term at the latter mine that the frightful disaster of year before last occurred, he being charged with the responsibility therefor, tried and convicted. The penalty was a \$50 fine, which his friends allege was paid by others who were equally responsible with him, but who were so fortunate as to escape arrest. Mr. Conrad married in Wilkes-Barre but his wife, a Mrs. Loch, died 12 years ago. He is survived by 6 children, all adults except one. A son, Christian, is a barber in Plymouth. Philip Conrad, of Ashley, Nicholas and Peter, of Wilkes-Barre, are brothers, and Mrs. Spender, of this city is a sister. Funeral Thursday at 3 from the family residence on Ross Street.

#### A Tailor's Long Life Ended.

For more than a third of a century there has been a merchant tailor in our midst, and he followed his trade for an even longer period before coming here. His name was Henry Christian Engelke, and he died of paralysis on Tuesday, March 29. Mr. Engelke was born in Hanover, Germany, in June, 1802, coming to America and settling in Wilkes-Barre in 1852. He married a Mrs. Kuschke, and for many years was in the tailoring business with her two sons, under the firm name of Engelke & Kuschke. His second wife was Mary Barth, who survives him. He had no children by either marriage. He has always been a diligent worker, attending strictly to business, and was engaged at his trade up to the day of his prostration, on Friday last. He passed out of life quietly and peacefully. He was of quiet demeanor and an excellent and substantial citizen. He was an Odd Fellow, both of subordinate lodge and encampment, and was a member of the German Lutheran Church. He had no relatives in America. Funeral Sunday at 2 from his late residence, 72 South River Street.

#### An Aged Lady's Death.

Our townsman, Joseph Birkbeck, met with a bereavement on March 30, in the death of his mother, at Freeland. From the *Progress* we glean the following facts:

Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson Birkbeck passed peacefully unto her eternal rest, at the ripe age of 83 years, 1 month and 18 days. Deceased was born at Buck Hill, Stainmoor, near Brough, England, Feb. 12, 1804. Came to America with her husband, Joseph, in 1844. Finally located in South Heberton, where they built a house in 1860, in the centre of 400 acres. Mr. Birkbeck made the first clearing, built the first house and raised the first crop in South Heberton. Soon after her residence in the then wilderness, she perceived a deer coming over the hill, which had been worried by dogs; the deer seeing her made a direct line for her person, when she grasped an axe and killed it, by first breaking its front legs and then cutting its throat. Her husband, who was engaged as a miner, prospector and farmer, died some years ago, after placing his wife in indeed well-to-do circumstances. The fruits of their marriage were thirteen children, three of whom survive them: Joseph, real estate agent and broker at Wilkes-Barre; Thomas, real estate agent and drover; and Mrs. Wm. Johnson, both of this place.

#### A Bridge Contractor Dead.

William Best died at his home in Kingston March 30 at 7 o'clock, at the age of 70. He had been a sufferer some years from rheumatism, and a year ago his health failed entirely, confining him to the house almost constantly. A week ago pneumonia set in and his collapse speedily followed. Mr. Best is survived by his wife, but with him his own family disappears, his only remaining brother having died a few months ago at Utica, their birthplace. Mr. Best was a bridge contractor and builder, and in his prime was a man of note in this line of industry. His first connection hereabouts was with the building of bridges on the northern division of the D. L. & W. RR., then known as the Leggett's Creek RR. In similar capacity he was connected with the southern division of the same road, and later became bridge builder and master carpenter of the Lackawanna & Bloomburg RR., in which capacity he continued while his health held out. Some years since when, on certain account, the question was raised as to the stability of the Wilkes-Barre bridge, he was one of a committee who made a thorough examination and report respecting it. While able, after retiring from the railroad, he carried on the picture frame business in Kingston. He was a consistent member of the M. E. Church, and in all respects a good citizen.

**THE FINCH FAMILY RE-UNION.****A Woman who Has Lived in the Same House for Sixty-nine Years—Remarkable Instances of Longevity.**

[Carbondale Leader.]

The home of Philip and Fannie Felts, in Greenfield Township, Lackawanna County, was made joyous on Tuesday, Feb. 1, by a family gathering to celebrate the ninetieth birthday of Mrs. Fanny Spencer, who is keeping house on the old homestead where she first commenced after her marriage in 1818.

Fanny Spencer was born Feb. 1, 1797, in Pittston Township, Luzerne County. She came into Greenfield with her father, Isaac Finch, in 1810, was married to Leonard Spencer in 1818; commenced housekeeping on the farm on which she now resides, was the mother of eight children, of which six are now living; grand-children thirty-seven, now living twenty-six; great grandchildren fifty-four, now living forty-five. The oldest great grandchild is nearly twenty-four years old and married. She says the first Methodist meeting held in Greenfield (which then included Scott), was held in their house by Rev. Silas Comfort, about 1831. About six years after, she united with the M. E. Church and from that time until the present her house has ever been a welcome home for the itinerant.

Her father's family is remarkable for longevity, perhaps without a parallel in the county. Her father, Isaac Finch, was born in Plains Township, Luzerne County, Feb. 25, 1763, married Sarah Tompkins, Oct. 19, 1798, moved into Greenfield in 1809 and died March 10, 1848, being 85 years old. They had ten children, four of whom are still living. Isaac Finch the second, (better known as Captain Finch) was born Nov. 20, 1788; died April 14, 1860, being seventy-one years old. Nathaniel Finch was born Feb. 3, 1792; died June 20, 1884, being ninety-two years old. John G. Finch was born May 19, 1794; died Jan. 16, 1896, being ninety-two years old. When quite an aged man he said that whiskey had become so poor and poisonous he would drink no more of it. At the age of eighty he gave up the use of tobacco which resolution he kept the remainder of his life. Fanny Spencer nee Finch, was born Feb. 7, 1797, she is still living being ninety years old. Carpenter Finch was born Nov. 21, 1799; emigrated West; his whereabouts not known; if living, eighty-seven years old. Julia Foster nee Finch, was born April 23, 1802; died July 26, 1831, being twenty-nine years old. Levina Benson nee Finch, was born March 18, 1805, is living; eighty-one years old.

Sally Marson, nee Finch, was born May 4, 1806; living, being 79 years old. Solomon

Finch (better known as Deacon Finch) was born November 4, 1810, died September 24, 1890, being 70 years old. Polly Whipple, nee Finch, was born July 5, 1813, is living being 74 years old. Supposing that Carpenter Finch is living, the united ages of ten children with their parents would be 939 years. The average duration of life of each family is 78 years and 3 months.

**A Former Wilkes-Barrean Dead.**  
[Owego, (N. Y.) Gazette.]

John S. Madden died at his residence in the town of Windham, Pa., near Nichols, March 22. Mr. Madden was born in Limerick, Ireland, June 14, 1806, and came to America in May, 1831, going to Silver Lake, Susquehanna County, Pa., where he resided two years. He removed thence to Wilkes-Barre, where he remained until 1844, when he came to Warren, Bradford County, and purchased a farm. Two years after he sold his farm and removed to Windham Centre, where he resided until his death. In 1848, he purchased a farm of 216 acres and built a saw mill and grist mill, and afterward a tannery. His buildings were destroyed by fire three times, the last time fifteen years ago, and were not rebuilt. Mr. Madden accumulated a handsome property, but lost largely in the failure of the Enreka Mowing Machine Manufacturing Co., at Towanda a few years ago. He was a man of great energy and public spirit. He was president of the projected Bradford railroad, and labored long and actively to secure its construction. He was a prominent Democrat. He leaves a wife, two sons and four daughters.

**Death of an Aged Luzerne Countian.**

James Ross, a well-known citizen of Dallas, died at his home on March 27, aged 93 years. Mr. Ross was one of the first settlers in Dallas, and had lived there during almost his entire life, as a farmer. Death was not unexpected, as he had been sinking gradually, owing to his advanced age, for a year or more.

Deceased leaves six children, all but one being married. The oldest, Shaver Ross, is living in Iowa; Samuel still lives in Dallas with his father, and Sterling, the third son, resides also at home, being still unmarried. Of the daughter, Lucinda lives in Kansas, the wife of Elam Honeywell; Elizabeth married Mr. Pinkman and lives in New York State, and Margaret is the wife of William Moore, living in Kansas.

James Ross was a native of Luzerne County, and has never lived outside its bounds since his birth in 1794. Funeral Tuesday at 2 pm. at Carverton.

#### The Late Wm. S. Davis.

The Danville *American* mentions the attendance upon the funeral of the late Wm. S. Davis, in that place, of Daniel Edwards and Rev. T. C. Edwards, of Kingston. The *American* says:

Early on Monday morning, March 21, W. S. Davis departed this life in the 78th year of his age. Mr. Davis was born in Glamorganshire, South Wales, in 1809. He emigrated to this country in 1839 and settled in Pottsville. In 1856 he came to Danville and for the past thirty years has resided here, following his occupation, that of a miner, excepting the last eight years, when his age compelled him to seek less arduous tasks. He had been assisting his son, Wm. C. Davis, until the infirmities of old age took a strong hold on him, resulting in his death on last Monday morning after a short illness. Mr. Davis was a good citizen and beloved by all his acquaintances. His wife died some sixteen years ago. He leaves two sons to mourn his loss, W. C. Davis, of this place, and Daniel S. Davis, of Kingston.

#### Twenty-Five Years in Town.

It was just 25 years ago Monday that our townsman, H. H. Derr came to Wilkes-Barre, and in conversation with him on Saturday relative to this quarter-centennial. Mr. Derr said it was remarkable what advancement Wilkes-Barre had made in that space of time. This advancement is in territorial area, in population, in railroad facilities and in the value of real estate. At that date, March 23, 1862, Mr. Derr came into town alone and on foot. Instead of being the important railroad centre that it now is, making it one of the most advantageously located business points in the country, it had only one road, the Lehigh & Susquehanna, which had a depot at the lower end of Main Street and hoisted a few passengers up the Ashley planes. But even this means of exit was suspended in the winter season. The only outlet north was via the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg road at Kingston. Mr. Derr says his brother, Thompson, had preceded him some six years and that the day after his (H. H. Derr's) arrival the two brothers walked to Pittston and back, in the absence of any railroad. That year the insurance firm of Thompson Derr & Bro. was formed, though the business was not extensive enough to require an office until October, when a lease was made with Ziba Bennett for the rooms over what is now the Adams Express. These rooms were occupied for 16 years. The business, no longer local, but comprising State agencies, now requires a force of 14 in the Wilkes-Barre office, and 150 throughout the State.

At that date Wilkes-Barre had a population of about 4,000—now it is estimated to have 40,000. The borough extended from North Street to a short distance below Ross, and from the river to the old canal, where now stands the Lehigh Valley R.R. depot.

Not only has the population been multiplied by 10, but the value of real estate has advanced, fully as much if not more. Mr. Derr says he was offered in 1862 the property on Public Square where Isaac Long's store is now located, at \$75 a foot front. Property on Public Square to-day is worth \$1,000 a foot.

The borough of that day has become a populous city and has added suburb after suburb until scarcely a trace of old Wilkes-Barre is discoverable. The latest addition is that being made by Mr. Derr himself, whose recent purchase of 40 acres, the Conyngam farm in North Wilkes-Barre, will throw hundreds of desirable building lots into the market. Its proximity to the Lehigh Valley shops and the Sheldon axle works, as well as its nearness to town, make it particularly desirable for homes for workmen and already 200 lots have been sold, some as low as \$10 a front foot. It would be interesting to know the value of this tract 25 years from now.

Mr. Derr came here without capital but by industry he has become highly successful in business. Besides this he has taken such an interest in the development of the town and the advancement of the interests of the community that he has for many years been an indispensable factor in our local life. While he has achieved a competency out of our people, he has always spent his money here and in that way has replaced everything he took out. His business life has not been a parasitic one by any means.

His host of friends will unite in congratulating him on passing the quarter-century post in his business life, with a satisfactory record for the past and a bright outlook for the future.

#### An Old Wilkes-Barre Editor.

[North Wales Record.]

Samuel R. Gordon, of North Wales, has in his possession an old copy of the *Pennsylvania Correspondent*, published by Asher Miner, in Doylestown. It is of the date of September 15, 1823, and is interesting from its antiquity. Asher Miner was the father of Bucks County newspapers. He came from Hartford, Connecticut, in 1804, and commenced the publication of the first newspaper in that county that had a continued existence. The *Correspondent* was the predecessor of the present *Bucks County Intelligencer*.

## OLD TIME RIVER NAVIGATION.

Interesting Reminiscence by Caleb E. Wright, Esq.—A Novel Rope that was Used, all Knowledge of Whose Making is now Lost.

[Letter to the Editor.]

In passing over the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R.R., a certain point near the Plymouth Academy always calls up recollections of the time when it was the scene of busy enterprise. It might be entitled to the appellation of a shipyard. There was not its equal in the valley. It was the point of shipment of coal. Here the Smiths, pioneers in the traffic, constructed their arks, on the side of an excavated basin, as I remember it, three or four hundred feet square. From the basin, a canal outlet led to the river. This was a dry basin, until filled by the back flow, in times of freshets.

The bottoms of the arks, ninety feet in length, were first constructed, the lower side uppermost. Then they were turned over, and the sides and diamond shaped ends added. They were sometimes filled with coal at once, awaiting the rising of the river, and when afloat, towed into the stream. Four men formed the crew. The pilot had charge of the front oar; the steersman the hind one.

I had the honour, in my boyhood, of taking two voyages on coal arks. The excitement of river navigation was very great in going down to tide water. But the up-river tramp, on foot, not so agreeable. But we formed lively squads on the march, and found abundant supplies of ham and eggs at the taverns.

I have made the foregoing prefatory to the notice of an implement in river navigation, which, I am disposed to think, was original with the coal trade. It was the ark rope, as then called, and one man enjoyed the monopoly of its manufacture. This man's name was Lee. At one time he owned a valuable farm on the east side of the river, near Shickshinny. A prevailing fever carried off one of his children. He denounced the region as unfit to live in, sold out at a sacrifice and moved to the western part of our State. There, in a year's time, another child died during the prevalence of a fatal epidemic. He said this was more than he could stand, and pulled out for Ohio. Very soon, in the new locality, he lost two more. He swore vengeance against the Buckeye region, and, bankrupted in means, came back to Luzerne. With his anti-febrile convictions in full blast, he severed connection with the human race and squatted in the woods at the foot of the North Mountain, back of Harvey's Lake, five miles from the nearest neighbor. A difficult place, as he thought, for a fever to find out. He put up his cabin on the margin of a small pond,

where his inventive genius found scope in a branch of manufacture, that came in and went out with his own existence. In fact it gave him local immortality. I don't know of any other artificer, at least in that quarter of the globe, who ever made a hawser a hundred feet long and big as a man's arm, out of hickory sprouts. A cable had need of strength, required to stop a heavily freighted ark in a swift current. But old Lee's ark rope could do it.

These hawsers were brought by him, one at a time, to Smith's basin, where they each brought a dollar or two. I more than once saw the old mountaineer arrive, with the enormous rope wound round the body of a ringboned Bucephalus and himself on top of it.

C. E. WRIGHT.

Doylestown, March 28, 1887.

## Wilcox Genealogical Data Wanted.

[Letter to the Editor.]

Isaac and Crandal Wilcox, brothers, came from Rhode Island to the Wyoming Valley after 1772, escaped the massacre in 1778 and returned to Rhode Island. Isaac there married Nancy Newcomb, whose mother was a Gardner, came again to Wyoming and a few years later moved to Dutchess County, New York, where he died in 1810. Crandal came to Wyoming again about 1791. They had a sister who married Daniel Rosekrans and went to Ohio.

In 1792 Amos Wilcox, of Minisink, conveyed to Isaac Wilcox, husbandman, and Crandal Wilcox, blacksmith, land in Wilkes-Barre Township.

Esen Wilcox in 1771 occupied land in Pittston on his father Stephen's right. Esen was killed in the battle.

Elisha Wilcox sold to Ebenezer Marcy, Aug. 1, 1773, his land in Pittston and took up his residence in Putnam Township, on the Tunkhannock. In 1778, on his way down the river to warn the inhabitants at Wyoming of the enemy's approach, he was taken prisoner. What became of him?

Daniel Wilcox appears as one of the grantees in the Indian Deed of Purchase 1754. He was from Connecticut.

How were Amos, Daniel, Elisha and Esen related to Isaac and Crandal, if at all?

Any information regarding these people is desired by William A. Wilcox, Wyoming, Pa.

The newly organized Bucks County Society has had a seal cut. It is a fac simile of the first seal of Bucks County. It is a shield in the centre, with the Penn circles or balls across the middle. Above is the tree branching forth, while on the sides depending from the top of the shield are the vines or branches. Around the edge is the inscription "Bucks County Historical Society—Incorporated 1885."

#### Origin of the Union League.

**EDITOR RECORD:** This organization originated in Luzerne County, which fact, I presume, most of your readers are not aware of. The writer heresof and four others, then members of the Luzerne County Executive Committee, S. P. Longstreet, chairman, were the initial members, the first who subscribed to the obligations of the League.

A man by the name of Hosea was sent to Harrisburg in February, 1862, conveying from us letters of introduction and recommendation to the Republican members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, expressing a hope that they would give the matter their favorable consideration, that they would introduce the League and get it started among their constituents.

Democrats at Harrisburg suspected that some movement antagonistical to their interest was being inaugurated, and while Hosea was absent in Philadelphia a day or two, parties succeeded in gaining access to his trunk and abstracted therefrom papers relating to the secret workings of the League; also our endorsements of the organization, which were published in the Harrisburg *Patriot and Union*, and many other papers. The *Patriot and Union* was curious to know who the endorsers of the organization were, etc., and the *Luzerne Union*, of Wilkes-Barre, responded by giving us all a raking down, calling the writer a John Brown Abolitionist, which, at that time, was about as approbrious an epithet, viewed from the *Union's* standpoint, as could well be applied to a person.

Hosea, to whom reference has been made, resided, I think, at Carbondale. He was afterwards assistant provost marshal in time of the war, and was shot and killed by a deserter whom he was endeavoring to arrest.

The Union League speedily grew from an apparently obscure origin to national prominence and importance. It is closely connected with, in fact it comprises part of, the history of the war of the Rebellion. It rendered efficient aid to the party in power, both during and subsequent to the war.

C. J. BALDWIN.

Norwalk, O., March 28, 1887.

#### The Organizers of the Union League.

A writer in the *Leader* takes exception to the reminiscence furnished the *RECORD* by Columbus J. Baldwin, of Norwalk, O., relative to the organizing of the Union League, and in the course of the article says:

It is true that the organization originated in Luzerne Co., but Hosea Carpenter, of Scott township, who was sent to Harrisburg with the important letters from the Luzerne

County Executive Committee, of which Mr. S. B. Longstreet (a patriot who thought he could do more good by staying at home than by going to war) was chairman, to the Pennsylvania Legislature. Carpenter was a half-witted fellow, and died a natural death, and therefore was not shot and killed by a deserter who was endeavoring to arrest while serving in the capacity of assistant provost marshal. Mr. Baldwin who recalls this interesting League reminiscence, was formerly a resident of Jackson township, subsequently of this city and was at one time Clerk of Courts of Luzerne. He was a bright, witty fellow, fully as patriotic as Mr. Lou street, and did considerable newspaper [in the *RECORD* OF THE *TIMES*] writing under the nom de plume of "Mountaeteer."

#### A Former Beach Haven Lady Dead.

Mrs. Anna Seely, widow of Andrew Seely, a well known resident of lower Luzerne County, died on Monday, April 4, at the residence of her son-in-law, J. W. Dreisbach, with whom she had lived for seven years. She was sick only a few days and death resulted from pneumonia. Mrs. Seely's maiden name was Fenstermacher, and she was born in Salem Township 69 years ago. Her husband, who was a farmer, died seven years ago. They had no children. Mrs. Seely is survived by three children from her first marriage—Mrs. J. W. Dreisbach and J. M. Brymer, both of this city, and Mrs. Josephine Hendershot, of Kingston. Mrs. Jacob Housenick, of this city, is a sister, also Mrs. Rombach, of Watsonstown, and Mrs. Michael Hess, of Salem, and Mrs. Philip Weiss, of Hollenback. John Fenstermacher, of Salem, is the only surviving brother. Mrs. Seely was a member of the Presbyterian Church and worshipped at the South Wilkes-Barre Chapel. She was a woman who was held in very high esteem and her death will be sincerely mourned, not alone by her immediate family, but by all who knew her. Funeral Thursday at 8 am., from residence of Mr. Dreisbach, 101 Hanover Street, proceeding on 10 o'clock train to Beach Haven by L. & B. RR. Interment at Beach Haven.

At the annual meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society the following officers were recently elected: President, Theo. W. Bean; Vice Presidents, ex-Judge H. C. Hoover and Dr. Hiram Corson; Secretary, Isaac Clusen; Treasurer, William McDermott; Trustees, H. M. Kratz, Benjamin Wertzner; James Detweiler, J. K. Gotwals and William McDermott. Interesting papers on several historical topics were read.

**Latitude of Wilkes-Barre.**

41 degrees, 14 minutes, 17 seconds in 1755, as taken by John Jenkins.

41 degrees, 14 minutes, 27 seconds in 1770, as taken by Samuel Wallis.

41 degrees, 14 minutes, 40 seconds in 1787, as given by David H. Conyngham.

41 degrees, 14 minutes, 40.4 seconds in 1881, as taken by second geological survey.

These observations were made at the following points: The third and fourth on the Public Square. The second at Fort Durkee, situate on the bank of the Susquehanna about where the residence of Wm. L. Conyngham stands. The first at a point unknown.

The distances apart, in a southern direction, would be: the third, 2.4 rods south of the fourth; the second about 80 rods south of the fourth, and the first about 142 rods south of the fourth.

I accept the fourth point of observation as giving the most perfect result, as it was done with modern instruments made expressly for that kind of work, with great care and at large expense, and after many observations, in a house built for the purpose, covering a considerable period of time; while the others were made by common surveyors' compasses in the woods or on the open plain.

The agreement is very close considering the great disadvantages under which the early observers labored. Who made the Conyngham observation it is not stated. He was on a visit to the valley in 1787, and noted in his journal "Wilkes-Barre is in 41 degrees 14 minutes 40 seconds north latitude."

STREUBEN JENKINS.

**Not a Relative of Mrs. Garfield.**

EDITOR RECORD: In a communication in the Record published March 28, 1887, signed "W. J." is the statement that "It is said that Mrs. President Garfield is a granddaughter of Jacob Rudolph." Jacob Rudolph is in Mr. Yarrington's list of business men in Wilkes-Barre in 1818. He married a daughter of Darius Preston, of Hanover. Mrs. President Garfield was no relative of his. Her great grandfather was Jacob Rudolph, of Maryland. Her grandfather was John Rudolph, who removed from Maryland to Ohio as early as 1806. Her father was born in Ohio, and was alive there three years ago, and has no knowledge of any of his uncles or cousins coming to Pennsylvania.

H. B. PLUMB.

Dr. H. Hollister, of Providence, has a series of interesting articles running in the Saturday issues of the *Scranton Truth*, descriptive of life in the Lackawanna Valley 40 years ago.

**Slight Change in Name.**

At the March meeting of City Council the name of Careytown Road was changed to Carey Avenue. The Careys, for whom the thoroughfare was named, were pioneers in old Wyoming and their memory is held in high esteem. Eleazer Carey was one of the first settlers in Wyoming Valley, coming first in 1769 and bringing his family from Connecticut three years later. Of the sons, John was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army, settling afterwards below Wilkes-Barre on the river road, the community being known ever after as Careytown. Nathan was in the battle of Wyoming, but escaped. Benjamin and Comfort were mere lads when the battle occurred, and afterwards they settled in Hanover Township. Benjamin was the father of ten children, of whom Sarah, who married Bateman Downing, was the mother of our townsman Reuben Downing.

**Loveland Genealogy.**

George Loveland, Esq., of this city, has been engaged for several years in an interested search for data pertaining to the Loveland family. He already has enough material to fill a good sized volume. The other day he received a copy of the Rutland, Vermont, *Record*, dated Feb. 23, 1887, giving the following interesting reference to a remarkably long-lived family of his kinsfolk:

A remarkable family gathering was held last Friday afternoon at the residence of Mr. S. B. Loveland, in Proctor, one of our best known inhabitants, who has lived all his life on a farm here, which has been in the possession of his family for almost a hundred years. It was a re-union of all the members of his family, with the exception of two, who found it impossible to attend. There were present Mrs. Wheeler, of Brandon, age 90 years; Mrs. Goodrich, of Brandon, age 88 years; Mrs. Betsey Mead, of Rutland Valley, age 84 years; Mrs. Ruth Parmelee, of Toledo, Ohio, age 80 years, Mrs. Hewitt of Brandon, age 75 years, Mrs. Butterfield, of Tenbridge, age 72 years, all of them sisters of Mr. Loveland and widows, and besides these Miss Lozina Loveland, age 75 years, A. N. Loveland Pittsford, age 67 years, another sister and brother, and Mr. Loveland himself who is 70 years old. The united age of these nine members of the family is 701 years, to which must be added the age of another sister and brother not present, 160 years, making a total of 861 years, a record which is hardly, if ever, excelled. Their health, is in spite of their advanced age, the best and they all have preserved the use of all their faculties in a remarkable degree. All of them but one were born and brought up on the old homestead.

#### An Autograph Letter of Washington.

The RECORD is permitted to reprint a hitherto unpublished letter from Gen. George Washington to Major Samuel Hodgdon. Major Hodgdon was Commissary of Subsistence in the army of the Revolutionary war and a personal friend of Washington. The original letter is in the possession of Mrs. Dr. Urquhart, who is a granddaughter of Major Hodgdon. The letter was written at the close of the Revolutionary War, between the sessions of Congress, which opened at Princeton, N. J., June 30, 1783 and closed at Annapolis, Md., Nov. 26, 1783:

PHILADELPHIA, 13th Dec. 1783—SIR: The Trunk, and two boxes or cases which you brought from New York for me, with a few other articles, which I shall send to you tomorrow, I would have go by Land as my Papers, and other valuable things are contained in them.

The Boxes and other parcels which were sent from Rockyhill by Col. Morgan, may go by water to Alexandria, for which place a vessel (Col. Biddle informs me) is just on the point of sailing, and will probably be the last for that River, Potomack, this season—let me intreat therefore that the opportunity may not be lost in sending them by her.

Inclosed is 40 dollars—5 more than your account.—I am sir as

Most<sup>d</sup>obed. Servt  
G. WASHINGTON.

SAM'L HODGDON Esq.

#### Almost a Golden Wedding.

On April 2d occurred the 45th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgan. Mr. Morgan is a Wilkes-Barrean by continuous residence of over half a century, and was married on April 2, 1842 by Rev. Mr. Bristol, then pastor of the M. E. church in Wilkes-Barre. A year later he entered the boot and shoe business, the firm being Kline & Morgan until 1847, when Mr. Morgan became sole proprietor. The establishment grew into large proportions, becoming one of the substantial industries of the town, by reason of Mr. Morgan's sterling business qualities. In 1879 its owner and founder had the satisfaction of placing the business in the hands of two of his sons who are now engaged as wholesale manufacturers with a large factory on North Main Street.

In 1888, though still engaged in the shoe business Mr. Morgan established the hardware firm of C. Morgan & Son on the present location of the People's Bank. In March of last year he severed his connection with this concern also, leaving it in the

hands of his three other sons who conduct the business on the sound principles which have made it a permanent success. Mr. Morgan has now laid aside the active responsibilities of business life, and has the rare pleasure of seeing his five sons established on their own feet in control of two of the important industries of the town.

On Saturday there was a quiet family reunion at the residence on North Franklin Street, all of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan's children being present. A golden wedding is an anniversary of rare occurrence in Wilkes-Barre, but Mr. and Mrs. Morgan have reason to anticipate such a celebration, the former being 73 and the latter 64 years of age, both being hale and hearty.

#### Another Old Land Mark Going.

That historic old residence corner of Franklin and Union Streets, once occupied by Chief Justice John Bannister Gibson, is now in process of demolition to make room for the block of six private residences to occupy the same lot extending from Union Street to the old canal, now L. V. R. R. track. This is an old structure, so old that perhaps no one living here remembers when it was built or by whom; the frame is yet staunch and sound, but the style of architecture is too antiquated for the present generation, and more than that, land is too scarce to allow a half acre to each dwelling here in the central portion of the city.

The old frame building adjoining the *Leader* office about to be removed to make room for two fine wholesale stores, though it may not be considered as among the "old landmarks," is yet not of very recent date. It was first used as a public house by Archippus Parrish, after the destruction by fire of his former hotel, which stood on the east side of the Public Square, about where Josiah Lewis's stores now are. The old tavern was burned on the night of 22d February, about the year 1831. The sleighing was fine on that day and there was to be a Washington's birth-day ball at night. Bright fires had been kindled to warm up some of the upper rooms for the comfort of expected guests during the early evening, when at about 9 o'clock a cry of fire was heard on the Public Square and flames were seen shooting up through the shingles of the roof, and in half an hour the old hostelry was reduced to ashes. The new building was used but a short time before Mr. Parrish removed to another hotel, corner of Public Square and East Market Street, which was also destroyed by fire many years ago.



## INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

Seventy Years Ago in Wilkes-Barre—Some Early Buildings—Two Brother Editors—Teaching a Blind Sister Her Letters with Wooden Type.

A RECORD man met Isaac M. Thomas the other day, that gentleman remarking that his mother, widow of Jesse Thomas, could give the desired information in regard to the old house at the corner of Franklin and Union Streets, now undergoing demolition to make room for a handsome block of residences. Mrs. Thomas was accordingly called on at her home on South Franklin Street. She remarked that the old house was built about 1811 or 1812, by her father, Hon. Charles Miner and that she and her brother, William P. Miner, founder of the Record or THE TIMES, were born under its roof. While her father was engaged in its erection he occupied the house at the corner of Union and River Streets, now occupied by Dr. Ingham. In 1817 Mr. Miner sold it to Judge Burnside, who was a distinguished jurist, the former removing to West Chester, where he established the *Village Record*.

All the four corners except one, that occupied many years later by Hon. Andrew Beaumont's house, were built upon. These were older than Mr. Miner's house and the one in the southwest corner is still standing. It was called the Evans house, its owner being quite a prominent man in his day. On the northeast corner, now the Stickney Block, was the Palmer house, known to a later generation as the "old red house." The Palmers afterwards removed to Mt. Holly, and they were a large family. The Beaumont house was built years after, in the early days of the canal and was intended by Mr. Beaumont as a ware house for canal shipping rather than for a dwelling.

Franklin Street ended at Union 70 years ago. Above Union it was called the "green lane" and was a favorite playground for our parents and grandparents during the first decade or two of the century. There were no houses above Union except that of Capt. Bowman, now the residence of Mrs. Col. A. H. Bowman.

Owing to the fact that Mrs. Thomas spent most of her earlier days away from Wilkes-Barre, she cannot tell who occupied the Miner house subsequent to Judge Burnside, though she recollects that Joseph Le Clerc lived there in 1833.

Mrs. Thomas well remembers the consecration of the first St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in 1823, by Bishop White. It was a great event in Wilkes-Barre and as Mrs. Thomas had lived among Quaker influences, she (then nine years old) had never seen a surpliced clergyman before. She remembers coming to visit Wilkes-Barre at that time

and that a fellow traveler in the stage coach over the Easton pike was a gentleman who was also coming to Wilkes-Barre. The little girl and her mother did not know the gentleman, though they were curious to, because he was constant in his kindly attentions to the child. What was their surprise at afterwards seeing their fellow-passenger a conspicuous figure at the church consecration, he being a candidate for ordination, Bishop White laying his hands upon his head with the bestowal of the apostolic blessing. Rev. Samuel Sitgreaves—for this proved to be his name—served as rector of the parish for a year, was followed by Rev. Enoch Huntington in 1824, and by Rev. Dr. James May in 1827. Prior to the coming of Mr. Sitgreaves, Samuel Bowman had conducted lay services at St. Stephen's and he afterwards entered the ministry and became an assistant bishop. Bishop Bowman died in 1801, and his wife was a sister of the young deacon who rode across the mountains with little Miss Miner on that bright June day in 1833. The church, Mrs. Thomas says, was a low, frame building painted white, with a gable end to the street, a flight of half a dozen steps leading up to a long porch. The Presbyterian Church was built a little later and was similar to the Episcopal except that its pulpit was at the front while that of the Episcopal was at the farther end from the entrance.

Mrs. Thomas has a host of interesting reminiscences. She remembers Rev. Dr. May and Bishop Onderdonk (Episcopal), Rev. Nicholas Murray (Presbyterian), who afterwards gained considerable prominence as "Kirwan" in his celebrated contest with Archbishop Hughes, of the Roman Catholic Church (1829-33). It was during Mr. Murray's pastorate that the church, which had been partly Congregational hitherto, fully adopted the Presbyterian form of government.

Her description of her father's printing office and the manner in which he taught a blind daughter, Sarah, to read, by having her learn the shape of large wooden job type, is interesting in the extreme. When sent to an institution for teaching the blind her parents were informed that she was the first child ever admitted who was able to read. She had a marvelous memory and was afterwards an invaluable assistant to her father in his arduous work of writing the "History of Wyoming," she accompanying him on his visits to the old people, listening closely to their stirring narratives of pioneer privations and Indian hostilities, and then recalling them to her father when he returned home to put his data on paper.

Charles Miner was born in Connecticut in 1780 and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1799,

where his brother Asher (great grandfather of the present Asher Miner) established the *Luzerne County Federalist* in 1801, in which year the Wilkes-Barre *Gazette*, owned by Thomas Wright, ceased publication. Asher Miner married the only daughter of Thomas Wright and Charles married his grand-daughter, Letitia, daughter of Joseph Wright, who had edited his father's paper. In 1802 the two Miners formed a partnership, which continued two years, at which time Asher moved to Doylestown. In 1807 Charles was elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature and was re-elected the following year. In 1810 he sold the *Federalist*, to his two apprentices, Steuben Butler and Sidney Tracy. He resumed the office in 1811, but in 1816 sold to Isaac A. Chapman and located in West Chester 1817. In 1824 he was elected to Congress and was re-elected two years later. In July 1825 he was re-joined by his brother Asher and they published the *Village Record* until its sale by them in 1834. It is still hale and hearty. Charles returned to Wyoming Valley in 1832, Asher following in 1834 and they ended their lives on adjoining farms near Wilkes-Barre, now Miner's Mills. His "History of Wyoming," was published in 1845 and is the standard work on that subject. His death occurred in 1865 at the ripe age of 85. Asher, who was the grandfather of Hon. Charles A. Miner, died in 1840.

#### Death of a Young Lawyer.

Catarrhal pneumonia of a week's duration blotted out a promising young life on Friday, April 1, that of James Buchanan Shaver, Esq., of Plymouth, one of the youngest members of the Luzerne Bar. He was born in Dallas, Jan. 24, 1859, and was a son of Andrew Jackson Shaver, and a grandson of William Shaver, of Dallas. The family have resided in or near Wyoming Valley since 1796. Deceased moved to Plymouth when a mere lad, soon after his father's death at Dallas. He was a faithful and diligent student and was graduated with honors from Wesleyan University in the class of 1881, when 22 years of age. After graduating he returned to Plymouth and taught in the public schools for three years. He registered as a law student with J. A. Opp., Esq., and was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County last June, after a highly creditable examination. He subsequently opened offices in Plymouth and Wilkes-Barre and the trial of the cases upon which he was engaged in his very brief practice stamped him as a lawyer who would have adorned his profession had his life been

spared. He was a member of the Methodist Church and an efficient teacher in the Sunday school. He was a brother of Dr. Wm. Davenport Shafer and a cousin of Dr. Harry L. Whitney and the Davenport Brothers of Plymouth.

It is said that since the illness of Prof. Howland, of the Wyoming Seminary, he had been invited to fill his position during that illness, and would have accepted had he not himself fallen a victim to the same disease.

The funeral took place Monday at 11 o'clock from his late home. Interment in Plymouth.

On Saturday the Luzerne bar held a meeting to take action upon its bereavement, and George B. Kulp, esq., was made chairman and Charles E. Keck, secretary. The following persons were appointed a Committee on Resolutions: A. C. O'Connell, A. L. Williams, P. A. O'Boyle, P. A. Meixell, D. A. Fell, jr., J. Q. Creveling and J. A. Opp, who reported as follows:

The bar of Luzerne County condole with the family and kindred of James Buchanan Shaver, and desire to express their appreciation of the loss which his unexpected death has brought to them. His life has come to an untimely close. His career has ended. His life's work was but begun. The future to him was full of hope and promise. His life was one of labor and assiduity, and his career worthy of emulation by all young men who aim at eminence in the profession to which he belonged. He was a Christian gentleman in all his actions and dealings with his fellow man. As a member of the bar he rejoiced in the moral triumphs of justice, and was a sincere and conscientious advocate in all that those terms imply. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the members of the legal profession of this county, and particularly the younger members of the bar, who have enjoyed closer intercourse with the deceased, have lost a warm, faithful, personal friend, and the bar in general has been deprived of one who added to its character more than ordinary virtues.

And we hereby extend to the family, and especially to the widowed mother of the deceased that sympathy which may in some small degree sustain them in the hour of their sad affliction.

The verdict of his colleagues is that, though young, James Buchanan Shaver has not lived in vain.

That these resolutions be engrossed and presented to the mother of the deceased, and that a copy be furnished the newspaper for publication, and that the court be requested to direct the same to be spread upon the records.

# The Historical Record

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## A BRAVE FRONTIER RANGER.

Sketch of Peter Pence, Who Fought in the Revolutionary War and was Afterwards an Indian Fighter on the Susquehanna—Some of His Adventures.

Peter Pence, whose name has so often been read in connection with that of Moses Van Campen, was a German, or rather a Pennsylvania Dutchman, of the days of seventy-six. It is believed that his proper name was Peter Bentz, which name at that time was frequently met in Lancaster County and that he came from there to Shamokin, and that it was changed to Pence, by the well known aptitude of the Pennsylvania Dutchman to cross the sounds of the letters b and p when speaking English, that in this way his name was written Pence.

In one of the Wyoming histories, in relating his and Moses Van Campen's adventures during a captivity with the Indians, Pence is described as a young boy. This is a mistake, as Peter was not only a man, but a very numerous one, both on the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna, as an Indian fighter and scout, or, as they were called in those days, a ranger. The first record we have of him is that in June, 1775, he enlisted in Captain John Lowdon's company, First Rifle Regiment, commanded by Col. William Thompson. This company camped at Sunbury, thence marched to Reading and Easton; thence through the northern part of the State of New Jersey, and crossed the Hudson River at New Windsor, a few miles northwest of West Point; thence through Hartford to Cambridge, where it arrived about the 8th of August. Pence's company was now fairly to the front and he had an opportunity of seeing the British troops whose batteries frowned down upon him from Bunker, Breed and Copp's hills, as also from their war ships in the harbor. The men of the regiment to which Pence belonged were thus described at the time in Thacher's *Military Journal*:

"Several companies of riflemen have arrived here from Pennsylvania and Maryland, a distance of from five hundred to seven hundred miles. They are remarkably stout and hardy men, many of them exceeding six feet in height. They are dressed in rifle shirts and round hats. These men are remarkable for the accuracy of their aim,

striking a mark with great certainty at two hundred yards' distance. At a review of a company of them, while on a quick advance they fired their balls into objects of seven inch diameter, at a distance of 250 yards. They are now stationed on our lines, and their shot have frequently proved fatal to British officers and and soldiers."

If this is a fair picture of the kind of boy Pence was in 1775 then he should have been something more than a boy, when in the month of April, 1780, he, Van Campen and Pike, with the two boys, Jonah Rogers and the boy Van Campen, Moses' little nephew, rose on their captors, near Tioga Point, and slew a portion of them, routed the remainder and captured all their guns and blankets. After which they made their way down the North Branch of the Susquehanna River, part of the way on foot and part on a raft, reaching Wyoming on the 4th day of April, 1780.

Here Pike and the boy, Jonah Rogers, left the party, as they were now near their homes. On the evening of the 5th Pence, Van Campen and his little nephew again took the river in a canoe and traveled all night, as at that time the Indians were on the river below Wyoming in force. They reached Fort Jenkins [now Briar Creek, Columbia County,] on the morning of the 8th of April, where they met Col. Kelly, with one hundred men, who had come across from the West Branch. Here it was that Moses Van Campen first met his mother and her younger children, who had escaped the massacre in which his father, brother and uncle met their fate just a week before. She had supposed him a victim of the slaughter. The next day Pence and Van Campen left Fort Jenkins in their canoes, and reached Fort Augusta, at Sunbury, where they were received in a regular frontier triumph. On the 9th following, Lieut.-Col. Ludwig Wettner writes from Northumberland to the Board of War, stating that he encloses a deposition, or rather a copy of it, of one Peter Bens, who was lately taken prisoner by the Indians on the 29th of March last, and happily made his escape with three more of his fellow sufferers. Every effort has been made to discover this deposition or a copy of it, but without success. The statement of Moses Van Campen as to this particular event must therefore forever stand alone.

The next exploit in which we find Pence engaged is in the year 1781, when the Stock family were murdered by the Indians about two miles west from Selinsgrove. It was a most foul and brutal murder. The neighborhood and three experienced Indian fighters, Pence, Grove and Stroh, went in pursuit of the enemy. The speed with which the Indians traveled and the care required to keep on their trail and avoid an ambush, prevented the white men from overtaking them until they had got into the State of New York, somewhere on the headwaters of the North Branch, where they found the party encamped for the night on the side of a hill covered with fern. There the Indians fancied themselves safe. The distance they had traveled in safety warranted them in believing that they had not been pursued and they therefore kept no watch. Grove, leaving his gun at the foot of the hill, crept up through the ferns and observed that all their rifles were piled around a tree and that all but three or four were asleep. One of them, a large and powerful man, was narrating in high good humor, and with much impressive gesticulation, the attack on Stock's family and described the manney in which Mrs. Stock defended herself. Grove lay quiet until the auditors fell asleep, and the orator, throwing his blanket over his head slept also. He then returned to his comrades, Pence and Stroh, informed them of what he had seen, and concerted the plan of attack, which was put in execution as soon as they thought the orator and his hearers fast asleep. They ascended the hill. Grove plied the tomahawk, while Pence and Stroh took possession of the rifles and fired among the sleepers. One of the first to awake was the orator, whom Grove dispatched with a single blow as he threw the blanket from his head and arose. How many they killed I do not know, but they brought home a number of scalps. The Indians, thinking they were attacked by a large party, fled in all directions and abandoned every thing. A white boy about 15 years of age, whom they had carried off, was rescued and brought back. The survivors having fled, they selected the best of the rifles, as many as they could conveniently carry, destroyed the remainder, and made their way to the Susquehanna, where they constructed a raft of logs and embarked. The river was so low that their descent was both tedious and slow, and their raft unfortunately striking a rock at Nanticoke Falls went to pieces, and they lost all their rifles and plunder. From that place they returned to Northumberland on foot, and arrived there in safety.

Meginness in his "Otzinachson," after speaking of Michael Grove as the Indian

killer, says, "There was another remarkable hunter and Indian killer in this valley named Peter Pence, of whom many wonderful stories are related. He is described by those who remember, as being a savage looking customer, and always went armed with his rifle, tomahawk and knife even years after peace was made. It is said that an account of his life was published some thirty years ago, and is remembered by some, but the most careful research has failed to develop it."

That Pence was not a boy, but a brave soldier of the Revolutionary War and served out a term, during which he bravely faced the cannon shot and shell of the British at Bunker Hill, and returned home to do duty on the Susquehanna frontier against the Indians and was captured and escaped with Moses VanCampen almost four years after an honorable discharge from the Continental service, must be conceded.

On the 10th of March, 1810, the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed an act granting an annuity to Peter Pence, in consideration of his services, of forty dollars per annum, which was to be paid annually in trust to John Forster of Lycoming County, and requiring the said John Forster annually to report to the Orphans' Court of Lycoming County, on oath or affirmation how or in what manner he executed the said trust in him confided. Peter Pence, it is said, died in Crawford Township, Clinton County, in the year 1829 and left a son named John. It would be very interesting to know at this late day, what evidence was filed at Harrisburg in support of the passage of the act granting the annuity. And also what report was made to the Orphans' Court by his trustee. And how, when and where he died and was buried. And who, if any of his living descendants are. C. F. HILL.

HAZLETON, April 15, 1887.

The Doylestown *Democrat* of March 8 contains the paper on Eon. Samuel D. Ingham, read before the Bucks County Historical Society by Rev. D. K. Turner. Mr. Ingham was the most illustrious citizen who ever lived in Bucks County, unless Nicholas Biddle, who lived at the same time and participated in the same events of the Jacksonian era, is regarded as a rival. Ingham, it will be remembered by the student of political history of the country, was the Secretary of the Treasury during old Hickory's administration, and with other members of the Cabinet dissolved their official relations of the administration on account of the Mrs. Eaton troubles. The paper is a valuable contribution, and will rescue from oblivion many of the incidents of Ingham's career.

## AN APRIL SNOW STORM.

One Which Old Probabilities was not Looking for—The Heaviest April Snow Fall in 30 Years.

People who had begun to make garden and who thought spring had come were surprised to witness a heavy snow storm April 18. It began in the silent hours of the early morning, continued about seven or eight hours, and by noon had laid a beautiful carpet of as many inches deep over the entire landscape. It lacked only a depression of temperature to be a genuine winter day. The thermometer was not as low as the freezing point. Pedestrians found the walking most difficult in the deep snow, while the roads speedily became muddy. The storm was hardly so severe as a noteworthy predecessor of 30 years ago, but it was phenomenal at this season of the year. The jingle of sleigh bells was heard for the first time in many weeks and there was fully seven or eight inches of snow on a level in the city. Outlying towns and hamlets report about a foot of snow on the level, at Laurel Run there being between 11 and 12 inches and at Lehman Centre the same. The storm began at about 5:30 am. and ceased for several hours about noon. At sundown it resumed, and continued until about midnight.

The storm on Saturday was central at Salt Lake City but crossed the Rocky Mountains and was central Monday morning in Louisville, Ky. All east of the Mississippi River was on Monday under the influence of the storm, which caused heavy rains at Louisville, Cincinnati, Nashville, Pittsburg, Knoxville and Indianapolis and lighter rains both east and west of these points, from Kansas to the Atlantic. In New York city it caused the fall of considerable snow. Snow also fell along the New England coast and in the lake region, but elsewhere the rain fall prevailed as far south as northern Georgia and Mississippi. Throughout Central New York and Pennsylvania from two to ten inches of snow is reported.

All the old settlers called to mind a similarly late April storm in 1857. James D. Laird was the first to fix the date, he finding a memorandum on his day book for April 20, 1857. He says the snow was up to the window sills of his Market Street shop, fully two feet deep.

Alderman Parsons, Richard Sharpe, Wesley Johnson, J. M. Nicholson and Charles Morgan, all had incidents to recall. The latter was on Long Island Sound on a steamer en route from New London to New York. The reckoning had become lost and the vessel had a difficult time making port.

Alderman Johnson recalled the crushing of Mr. Betterly's kitchen, which stood

about where Morgan's shoe factory now stands. Mr. Betterly was the father of the present Dr. Betterly.

Alderman Parsons had a very vivid recollection of the occurrence as his first wife was dying. He went to Pursel & Simon's livery for a rig with which to take a nurse home. The stable was crushed. Mr. Parsons says the snow remaining at the end of the storm was 11 inches.

Hon. L. D. Shoemaker's recollection of the depth of the snow was about a foot.

Ticket Agent Nicholson says the D. L. & W. trains yesterday did not suffer so badly this time as in April, 1857, the snow fall on Pooono being only five inches, while in 1857 it was as many feet.

E. H. Chase, Esq., recalls the storm as it affected the courts. The drifts were so bad, and the storm so heavy throughout the county, that court which had assembled, as it did Monday, for the spring term, was compelled to adjourn because of the absence of jurors. Stiles Williams, of Bear Creek, for a long time proprietor of the Prospect House on the Wilkes-Barre mountain, created a sensation by bringing in several jurymen from Bear Creek township and neighborhood, the party being pulled by four horses, with five outriders going on ahead to break the road. Mr. Chase was drawn as talesman in the same court, but was rejected as not having been a resident of the county for a sufficient length of time.

The RECORD OF THE TIMES for April 22, 1857, contains several references to the storm of that year, the date being April 20:

"The storm of Sunday night and Monday was more disagreeable than anything we recollect for years. Heaviest snow fall of the winter. The roof of the lime shed at the livery stable of Pursel & Simons was broken down and several carriage tops crushed. Telegraph poles on Market and Main Streets broke down and tangled the wires in the street. A building on Main Street, occupied by Mr. Betterly was broken in and his daughter slightly injured. The falling mass rested on the table where she was eating, otherwise she would have been crushed to death. Mr. Totten's stable on Washington Street was crushed, also the long rope walk on the canal."

"The storm has interfered with our office work and we have been compelled to call in extra assistance in the way of steam for the power presses."

"The weather for past week severe as November. Wednesday like winter. Saturday spring like, but only a weather breeder. Sunday raw, East wind, snow commenced afternoon, continuing nearly all Monday and part of Tuesday. We had a sled ride on Tuesday. Eighteen inches must have fallen. The Lackawanna & Western trains were

stopped on Monday. Snow reported several feet deep in places."

"The snow blocked up the road on the Kingston mountain so that it was impossible to get the mails through to Northmoreland. The mail carrier reports from five to six feet of unbroken snow. The team was stuck fast and men had to be employed to shovel them out, after which further progress was given up."

A similar storm was reported from Pottsville and Reading.

The same paper records late storms in previous years. May 2, 1841, the week past been almost one continued storm—cold, snow, wet. April 20, 1843, last snow of winter disappeared. June 1, 1843, sharp frost killed beans and apple crop. Other crops not injured. The editor remarks: "So there is hope. Seed time and harvest shall not fail, though our variable climate continue variable. And spring, all smiles, all tears, remains the battle ground between winter and summer for the mastery."

#### OLD TIME RAILROADING.

**Ex-Supt. Bound's Experience on the Pocono in the Heavy Snow Storm of April, 1857—The Locomotives Nearly Buried.**

The RECORD has already reported Ticket Agent J. M. Nicholson as saying the snow was 5 feet deep on the Pocono Mountain in April storm 30 years ago. Mr. Nicholson, feeling that his story was received with a little discredit wrote to Ex-Supt. Bound of the L. & B. RR., who was on the Pocono at the time and whose reply will be read with general interest:

APRIL 19—J. M. NICHOLSON, KINGSTON—DEAR SIR: In April 1857, I was conductor of coal train, on Southern Division, D. L. & W. RR. At about 4 am. on April 20, 1857, I left Scranton for New Hampton Junction, with engine Vermont, (camel-back,) and David Hippenhamer engineer. We started with our usual train, (23 small cars,) but the snow being about eight inches deep and very heavy, we were compelled to back down and switch six cars. At Greenville we switched ten more; at Moscow we switched the remainder of our cars, and went on with engine and caboose. Were stalled several times between Moscow and Lehigh. In 1857 the Pocono Tunnel was not completed, and we ran around it, and over short trestle. At east end of this trestle we found Puterbaugh, conductor, Mark Barnwell, engineer, with engine "Susquehanna" off the track. Puterbaugh had left Scranton a few moments ahead of us with a freight train, and I think had switched nearly or quite all of his cars before leaving Moscow. If I re-

member aright it was about 8 am., when we overtook Puterbaugh, and it took us until 8 pm. to get the "Susquehanna" off the track, and by this time the snow was up to my armpits on the level. You do not exaggerate when you say the snow was five feet deep on level at Pocono in April 1857. I was there. After we got engine on track, we coupled the two engines together, got up full head of steam, and took a run over the embankment near Paradise water tank, (wind had blown snow off this bank,) for Paradise switch, and if ever engine did their duty, this was the time. We just cleared main track, when we stalled, and we were happy, for we had expected to stall before clearing main track. And think of flagmen standing out in that storm for two days and two nights. On Paradise switch we found Gurnsey, conductor, Jim Harvey, engineer, with engine "Niagara" attached to west bound freight. We all (three crews) went to section house (Barlow's) and got our suppers. Next morning we got our breakfast at same place and ate up all they had except enough to last his family for two days. I took Gurnsey's way bills, looked them over and found car containing a barrel of crackers and a box of cheese, we were all right now for grub; but when could we get from Paradise to Scranton, was the question.

On April 22, at about 4 pm., we were made happy by the arrival of a passenger train from the west. Supt. Brisbin was on it and stated to us that he, with all the men and engines at his command, had been working since morning of 20th to get passenger train from Scranton over Pocono, and said to us, "Boys, the snow is very deep in cut west of Tobyhanna. It is to tops of passenger cars; you can go to Scranton to-night if you think you can get your engines there safe. I would prefer you would wait until morning." And his train started for Newhampton Junction. Soon after we held council of war and concluded to go to Scranton that night, which we did, arriving there about 9 pm. all right. I should have added that when we stalled in Paradise switch the snow was level with the head light on the "Susquehanna" and the foot boards alongside of "Vermont's" boiler. We had no injectors at that time and pumped water into our engines by slipping the drivers; this was the only way we could keep them alive, as they could not be moved until we shoveled them out on 22nd.

DAVID T. BOUND.

April Thirty-three Years Ago.

[Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.]

The following is an extract from John A. Otto's diary in 1854, Mr. Otto residing at that time in Schuylkill County: "April 14th,

Good Friday—snow storm; April 15th, rain and snow; 16th, Easter, very cold; 17th, snow fifteen inches deep; found a half bushel dead birds in an old furnace stack."

#### Another Spring Snow Storm.

EDITOR RECORD: As our snow storm of April 18 has called forth numerous reminiscences concerning late spring snows from some of the "oldest inhabitants," permit me to mention one of an earlier date and of still more untimely occurrence. I think it was in the year 1833, or perhaps in 1834. I was then a small boy, and we, that is myself and one or two more of my brothers, were at work on the old home farm at Laurel Run on the 15th of May, planting corn in a field now covered by 50 feet or more of coal culm. The morning was fair, but towards noon it became so cold, that I inly clad as we were, we were obliged to leave off work and betake ourselves to the old fashioned chimney corner with its bright wood fire kindled on the hearth. Snow commenced falling early in the evening, and next morning the ground was covered with four or five inches. Peach and plum trees were in full bloom, and their branches were drooping with the weight of snow and hanging to the clusters of blossom, which in the case of the plum trees at least, rivaled the whiteness of the untimely snow with which they were weighted down. I do not remember what effect this had on the fruitage but think it was not seriously damaged. w. j.

#### Another Untimely Snow Storm

Now that the heavy snow storm of April 18 is recalling other unseasonable storms the following item will be of interest, it being copied from the manuscript diary of Jacob J. Dennis, father of Capt. James P. Dennis:

"Snow fell on the 4th day of May, 1812, at Wilkes-Barre, nearly all day. Peach trees were in blossoms and apple trees; some gardens were made. The two mountains were covered with snow, and on Wilkes-Barre Mountain more than a foot deep."

#### Two Valuable Relics.

Dr. W. H. Sharp, of Nanticoke, has presented the Historical Society with two valuable relics. One is an iron hatchet or tomahawk, blade six inches long, 2½ inches along cutting edge. It was found on the premises of Asa Cook in Pike Swamp, near the cabin of Abram Pike, the celebrated Indian killer. The other is an aboriginal implement or ornament of stone, 4½ inches long, 1½ inches wide and having two conical shaped holes bored through near the rounded ends. It was found on the mountain in Hunlock Township by C. H. Sharp.

#### A Poem by Mrs. Sigourney.

The following poem is handed the RECORD by Capt. James P. Dennis. It appeared first in the Hartford (Conn.) *Courant*, and is undoubtedly from the pen of the distinguished poet, Mrs. Lydia Huntley Sigourney. She was born in Norwich, Conn., 1791, and in 1819 was married to Charles S. Sigourney, of Hartford. Her writings contain frequent references to the aboriginal inhabitants of America and to her native State. Naturally Wyoming, with its tragic story and its Connecticut associations, occupied a place in her writings. The present poem, which was an appeal for the building of a monument over the bones of the hero dead at Wyoming is not given in her published writings. Mrs. Sigourney died in Hartford in 1865.

#### THE WYOMING MONUMENT.

Men of this happy land, if ye would have  
That valor flourish, which did guard your homes  
From foreign domination—haste to pay  
Due honor to the dead, who made their breast  
A shield agai' st the foe, and in the cause  
Of holy liberty, lay down to die,  
—Flow'd not their blood from the same glorious  
source  
That fill'd your own? Why should they longer  
sleep  
In cold oblivion's tomb?  
Their gather'd bones  
Are where the death-shaft fell, and the green  
turf  
Of fair Wyoming's vale hath done its best  
To deck their sepulchre. Yea, Spring hath  
come—  
Weeping like Rizzpah for her slaughter'd sons,  
And spread a mantle o'er them—and the flowers  
That Summer brings, have budded there and  
died  
These many lustres.  
Friends and countrymen—  
Plant ye a stone upon that hallow'd mound,  
And from its grave tablet teach your sons—  
And when its pillar'd height goes up toward  
heaven,  
Tell them from whence was drawn that fortitude  
Which sav'd their land. Then if you see a tear  
Upon the bright cheeks of your listening boy,  
Hasten with a precious seed—and charge him  
there  
To love his country and to fear his God  
—L. H. S.

Hartford, Conn. May 28, 1841.

#### Capt John Fries, of Bucks.

EDITOR RECORD: Will not some contributor furnish a history of Capt. John Fries, of Bucks County, Pa., who in 1799 made a raid into Bethlehem, and liberated a number of prisoners, was tried for high treason and sentenced to death, and afterward pardoned by President John Adams. Will not some of our Northampton or Bucks County local historians write him up, his ancestry and descendants, etc. H.

**MR. YARINGTON'S REMINISCENCES.****How His Father's Blacksmith Shop Looked, and How Nails and Farm Tools Were Made 65 Years Ago—Launch of the War Ship, "Luzerne."**

EDITOR RECORD: On the last day of February, 1826, I left my home in Wilkes-Barre and walked to Dundaff. I had previously made a contract with Col. Gould Phinny to work a year for him at my trade, (blacksmith.) I went up the turnpike from Wilkes-Barre, through Pittston to Hyde Park, and while there I looked over to Capouse (now Scranton,) and I saw the residence of Maj. Ebenezer Slocum and eight or ten tenant houses in which his work-hands resided, and there were apparently ten or twelve acres of cleared land where Scranton now is. Maj. Slocum had a forge there, and manufactured what was called bloomer irons and soon after the war of 1812 I used to go up with my father to purchase iron of Mr. Slocum, my father being a blacksmith. Where Scranton now is, was then a dense wilderness with the exception of the few acres around his house. I went on up the turnpike through Greenfield, and arrived at the Dundaff Hotel about sundown. There I found an old Wilkes-Barre friend and his family with whom I was acquainted, Archippus Parrish, whose horses I had shod from 1818 to 1822, at which time he moved with his family to Dundaff. He ran the hotel there a number of years and then moved back to Wilkes-Barre. I felt perfectly at home and boarded with the family a year, and I can positively say that it was one of the happiest years of my life.

I will now go back a few years with the occurrences of my boyhood at Wilkes-Barre. When I was ten years old (1813) my father carried on the blacksmith business. In his shop were three fires. At that time there were no hardware stores in Wilkes-Barre and no edge tools could be found in either of the four or five stores there, except now and then an old fashioned one-bladed Barlow knife might be found at a huge price. Such an article as a cast iron plough or a cut nail was not known, but about the close of the war a man by the name of Francis McShane started a cut nail machine, a very simple affair indeed, but himself and his helper, (Shepard Marble, a Wilkes-Barre young man) could cut and head about 20 pounds daily; this caused a great excitement in town, hundreds of people from town and county came to see the nail factory. The price of wrought iron came down from 20 and 25 cents a pound to the price of twelve and a half cents. Cut nails were sold at ten cents. The three fires in my father's shop were used as follows: First, at his fire

were made all the edge tools, including cradle and grass soythees, chopping axes and various kinds of carpenters' tools. At another fire nothing but the various kinds of wrought iron nails were made, and the third fire was kept busy at the various kinds of customers' work as it was called for.

During the war of 1812 the great ship Luzerne was built on the river bank in front of John W. Robinson's stone house. I saw the launch. A thousand or more people were present. The war spirit was rampant at that time, and the people of our town expected that the noble Luzerne was going to assist in bringing the "Flag of Great Britain" down. A few days after the launch a sufficient flood arose and the ship was manned and started down the river towards the ocean, but in passing the Falls of Canawaga, she ran on to the rocks and lay there till the ice in the river broke up the next spring, when she was totally destroyed.

John P. Arndt was one of the stockholders—probably the largest one—in the vessel. Several others, including my father, had from three to five hundred dollars of the stock. There was great excitement in Luzerne County about those days. The war spirit prevailed to a great extent. There were two recruiting stations at Wilkes-Barre and the recruiting officers were very busy for one or two years. Business of every description was brisk, and all kinds of provisions were high—wheat two dollars and fifty cents per bushel; corn one dollar and twenty-five cents; pork eighteen to twenty dollars a barrel, and everything else in the line of provisions proportionally high.

D. YARINGTON.

**POSTAGE FIFTY YEARS AGO.**

**Now We Send One Ounce Anywhere in the United States for Two Cents.**

Fifty years ago the rates of postage in the United States were six cents for a letter, if not carried over 30 miles, 10 cents, if carried over 30 miles and not over 80 miles, 12½ cents if over 80 and not over 150 miles, 18½ cents between 150 and 400 miles, and 25 cents for any distance over 400 miles. Double letters, or letters composed of two pieces of paper, were double these rates. Every distinct piece of paper, if written on, was liable to single-rate letter postage. Envelopes were then unknown in this country. If used, they would have subjected letters to double postage. The fourth page of the letter sheet was left vacant, and the letter was so folded as to bring a part of this page on the outside of the letter and thus furnish a place for the superscription or address.



## AFTER THE BATTLE.

Some Old Accounts for Supplies Furnished the Soldiers at Westmoreland—Some Blackman Historical Data.

Following are some extracts from an old pocket account-book of Elisha Blackman, Sr., of Wilkes-Barre (Westmoreland) in 1778, the same now being in my possession:

"Account agains William Stuard and the foragemaster at Westmore Land.	
"To one note of hand.....	£13 6 0
"To one order of the forage-master.....	12 0 0
"Ots to the foragemaster.....	6 6 0
"To corn.....	14 8 0
"To hay.....	10 10 0
	£56 10 0"

Then again afterwards the same matter as follows:

"Westmore Land, November ye 25, 1778.	
"Nots and orders that I left with Mr. Daniel Downin.	
"To one not agains William Stuard for pork.....	
	£13 6 0
" One order for potatoes.....	12 0 0
" Ots for the arme.....	6 6 0
" Corn for the arme.....	14 8 0
" Hay for the arme.....	10 10 0
	£58 10 0"

This being Connecticut currency, Ga. to the dollar would, in United States money, amount to \$188 33½.

This Elisha Blackman was the lieutenant of the old men, the "Reformadoes," that were in possession of the Wilkes-Barre fort, or stockade, on the day of the massacre at Wyoming, July 3, 1778. On the next day, the 4th, after the women and children, and all the other old men in Wilkes-Barre and the neighborhood had fled across the mountain toward Stroudsburg, he left the fort about 4 o'clock in the afternoon with his son, Elisha Blackman, Jr.—who had been in the battle at Wyoming the day before and had escaped—and fled down the river, and across the country by the Wapwallopen Creek to Stroudsburg. Elisha, Jr., came back to Wilkes-Barre early in August with Capt. Spaulding's remnant of the two companies of the Wyoming or Westmoreland soldiers that had been in Washington's army. After saving such of the crops of his father's farm and others as he could and helping to bury the dead at Wyoming he enlisted in Washington's army and served to the end of the war—1783.

The old gentleman, Elisha, Sr., went on to Connecticut with his family, which he had found at Stroudsburg, but returned to Wilkes-Barre the same year, 1778, and dis-

posed of his crops, or some of them, to the government for the soldiers stationed at Wilkes-Barre and the neighborhood. The potatoes and oats, corn and hay, or grass, could not be wholly destroyed by the Indians. But how could this pork have been saved? Was it buried in the ground? Young Elisha's mother had buried his clothing to keep the Indians from getting it, before she, with the rest of the children, two boys, 13 and 16, and two girls older than these, fled to the mountain, and young Elisha never saw her after the massacre until the war ended in 1783. On his discharge from the army he went to Connecticut, not so very fa. from Newberg, where the army was disbanded, and when he returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1788 his buried clothes were all rotten. (His father returned to Wilkes-Barre to reside in 1787.) But why had not his mother told his father where they were buried, so that when he was here in 1778 he might have dug them up and saved them? It seems that some of the people had forethought and courage enough, the night and day after the battle and massacre, to bury their most valuable property that could not be carried away on their backs across the mountains and through the woods and the great swamp. There were no roads nor scarcely paths in that direction, for that was toward Pennsylvania and not New England settlements. H. B. PLUMB.

## Jones Family of Bethlehem.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Jones went to Bethlehem April 18 to attend the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Jones. There was a happy family reunion. The house wherein the wedding took place occupied the site of the old homestead built by John Jones, who bought the whole tract lying between Bethlehem and Freemansburg 150 years ago. On this farm they lived 33 years, and here their eleven children were born, only five of whom are now living. The grandchild last born—a son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Jones—was baptized on Monday evening, in the presence of the assembled family, by Rev. Robert W. Jones, Earl Andre was the baptismal name. The history and lineage of the Jones family of Bethlehem Township was traced and embodied in an article published in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* for 1880, by Prof. Joseph Henry Dubbs, D. D., of Lancaster, Pa., whose grandmother was a Jones. Griffith Jones, the first of the line, was born in Wales, and died in Montgomery County, Pa., in 1720. His son, John, was the first of the family in this vicinity, and the grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. George Jones are the seventh generation.

## Meteoric Shower of 1833.

In response to the RECORD's inquiry if any of its readers could describe the meteoric shower of 1833, A. G. Stilwell sends the following reminiscence:

The writer was twenty years of age at that date, Nov. 12, 1833, a resident of Susquehanna County. The day previous, preparations were being made by his father and self to start early for Philadelphia. About 3 am. we were astir to feed and hitch up dobbin, it was before the days of railroads. Upon looking out doors a sight new and dazzling was presented. In the East, West, North and South appeared, filling the air by the millions softly and quietly falling towards the earth, particles of fire like snow-flakes; but none of them by very close examination could be seen to touch the earth. None fell at the feet: but like the foot of the rain-bow, when approached receded. The morning was cool and very pleasant weather followed into October. The recollection of the phenomenon is very vivid, but what it was I do not know; probably it was gas, having the appearance of fire and yet without heat. Singular as it may appear, no effort made to secure or touch the fire with the hand was successful. When within a few feet of the earth it seemed to dissolve.

## HON. H. B. PLUMB'S RECOLLECTION.

The author of the History of Hanover Township thus writes:

In the RECORD of April 27 you ask who among your readers can recall the wonderful meteoric display of Nov. 12, 1833. I, for one, can recall it.

On the morning of the 13th, about 4 o'clock, my mother awoke me and had me get up and go to the door with her. There she told me to look up at the sky. I looked up, facing the south. I probably looked in every direction from the door toward the south, but I have a recollection only of looking at the sky towards the south. The sky was all brightly lighted up by the flashing shooting stars. According to my recollection they all shot towards the west. The tails were not quite as long, according to my recollection, as that of an ordinary shooting star, but they were constantly, incessantly flashing, wherever I looked, all going the same way—the same direction—towards the west. There was not in any direction, from any flashing star a vacant space, without any shooting star in it, as wide or great as two diameters of the full moon. The tails seem to me to have been as long as five or six diameters of the full moon. My mother told me to remember that I was four years old that day. That day was my birthday. I was too young to be frightened at it, and I have just asked my mother about it, and she was not frightened, because her father was

there looking at them, and he did not seem afraid and so she wasn't. She says she did not know but he was used to such sights, and had seen them often before, and knew all about it. The next day, that is the same day after it got light, she went to Wilkes-Barre, and there was great excitement there. The Methodists had held prayers during the night, she learned, and some had prayed all night. See also Plumb's history of Hanover, page 292.

H. B. PLUMB.

## AS SEEN AT WILLIAMSPORT.

Col. Meginness' *Historical Journal*, published at Williamsport, gives the following reminiscence of an eye-witness:

"A single glance from the window convinced us that either the stars were falling or that some strange phenomenon was taking place. The air seemed to be filled with falling fire, each separate particle of which was apparently as large as the big flakes of snow that sometimes fall on a soft day in winter. The falling fire, or whatever it was, made it as light as when the full moon is shining on a clear night, and looking far up towards the sky we could fix our eyes upon a single one of the falling meteors and trace it until it almost reached the ground, upon which none of them could be seen to alight. Some of the meteors assumed fantastic shapes and our fears were terrible. When we finally calmed ourselves enough to reason together, we found that by fixing our gaze upon the real stars, that were shining brightly in the heavens, we could see that they were not falling. This allayed our fears, and from the moment that discovery was made, we feasted our eyes upon the falling meteors until daylight shut them from our view. But few of our neighbors witnessed the strange sight, and those who did not were loth to believe the occurrence as we related it to be real. We, however, were pleased to know, when we saw the newspapers, that the singular phenomenon had been witnessed all over the world, and that we had seen the wonderful sight of that remarkable night of November 12, 1833."

By the death of Col. James Boone, of Lancaster, Montgomery County now claims that she has living within her limits the oldest Odd Fellow in Pennsylvania, in the person of Geo. F. Schaeff, who was initiated early in March, 1828, in Philadelphia. He is now living at Blue Bell, in robust health, and is a member of Centre Square Lodge, No. 204.—*Norristown Herald*.

Major W. P. Elliott, an account of whom appeared in the March *Historical Record* as being the oldest printer in the United States, died at Lewiston, April 2, 1887, aged 94.

**A Wildcat Reminiscence.**

A RECORD man succeeded the other day in corraling Councilman S. H. Lynch at a moment when he was not absorbed in municipal affairs and asked him for some particulars as to an adventure he had many years ago with a wildcat. Mr. Lynch replied that it would give him pleasure to have the story embalmed in the RECORD and here is how he told it:

In the winter of 1834 two boys were standing on the banks of the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre, near what was then the residence of Samuel Raub. One of the boys lived in the house which stood about where W. L. Conyngham's house now stands. The river was covered with ice, which had been crushed by a recent rise in the river and had again frozen up. As they were gazing at the ice they heard a voice from the opposite bank calling "Bring over your dogs, bring over your dogs." There were two dogs attending upon the lads, one called "Mingo" and the other "Major," which had doubtless been seen by the opposite party. The two boys lived but to obey, and without considering the risk of the uncertain ice they immediately plunged down the bank, crossed the river and were received by a hunter with a rifle over his shoulder, who told them that he had chased a wildcat from Ross Hill and had lost it in the trees and bushes at the bend of the river. Here was something worth coming over the ice for; and they, with the dogs, began to beat up the bush, and were not long in starting the cat. Backwards and forwards they tramped, throwing clubs and stones at the animal whenever he appeared in sight, expecting he would tree, but he was too sharp for that. After working through the weeds for an hour or more, they lost track of the critter, and while searching in the trees for him a rifle crack rang out on the air some distance west of their position, and rushing forward, they soon got sight of the hunter, and there at the foot of a tree lay the largest kind of a wildcat. The dogs rushed in, but more speedily rushed out, as the cat, being wounded used his claws with terrible effect, and no urging could induce them to make another charge, and it required another shot through the head before the game was up. The hunter shouldered his rifle and the cat and brought it over to town, and it was said to be the largest wildcat ever seen hereabouts. The hunter was John Myers, father of Lawrence Myers, of this city. One of the boys was John Raub, who died a short time since in Virginia, and the other boy was Mr. Lynch himself.

**The Half Has Not Been Told.**

EDITOR RECORD: Here is a little piece of history as related to me by J. T. Bennett in a recent letter:

"In the year 1828 and 1829, my father had a contract on the canal below the dam across the river at Nantiooke Falls. I was there with him. They were Yankees and Dutch on that section, and they were all Irish below and above. They broke out like wild tigers and came on with clubs and crow-bars and everything they could get in their hands that would kill a man. My father went to see what was the matter, and they ran after him and he went down a bank twelve feet, and I saw these Irishmen break a rail in two just as his head passed the bank and it was only about four inches off. I ran up the canal and I saw a lot coming towards me and then I ran to the river. It was very high at that time, I saw that it was my only chance for my life and in I went and started for the other side, but it so happened that there had been a small boat there and some had got into it and started to cross the river. I was about a quarter of a mile off and I went to them. My father was in the boat and when we got up to Col. Washington Lee's, we found a man going to town (Wilkes-Barre). His name was Jurdon Womelendorf. My father sent a letter by him to the sheriff and by midnight there was a good party from town down there. I stopped all night at my uncle's, Thomas Bennett, [he kept a tavern or hotel in Nantiooke]. They killed David Ehrett right by the place where my father was and I ran up the river and swam down and out.—And the half has not been told yet."

**Death of Mrs. Livingston.**

At 1 o'clock Monday, April 4, Mrs. Isaac Livingston, wife of our well known merchant, died at her residence, 84 Public Square, after a lengthy illness. She was born in Bavaria July 9, 1829, and came to this city when a young woman. Her first husband was Louis Reese, who was shot and killed on the Kingston flats. Thirty-two years ago she married Mr. Livingston and their life together was a happy and prosperous one. She leaves one child by her first marriage, Sarah, wife of A. Reese, of Plymouth. Two sons, Moses and Harry, and three daughters, Mamie, Gusie and Jennie, survive from her second marriage.

For more than 20 years she has suffered from a liver affection that more than once threatened to terminate her life, but medical skill succeeded in averting the crisis. For the past few months, however, it had become evident that the end was not far off.

## Fifty Years of Married Life.

A very pleasant gathering assembled Wednesday, May 4, at the residence of William S. Wells, on River Street, the occasion being the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of the host and hostess, which took place in Kingston May 4, 1837. Mr. Wells had recently come to the valley from Massachusetts, Miss Jackson, his bride, being of English parentage. Besides the 21 children and grandchildren, gathered from Mehoopany, Carbondale and this city, old friends and relatives of the family to the number of 50 or more were present to do honor to the interesting event. Miss Edith, daughter of Charles D. Wells, in a neat little speech presented her grandmother with a handsome gold ring. Rev. W. W. Loomis made some happy remarks, recounting his personal knowledge of the long and happy married life of the parties, in which he stated that statistics show that not more than one couple in every thirteen thousand who enter upon the marriage relation ever live to see the fiftieth anniversary of that, the most important event in their lives. He reminded them that in the natural course of events they must be now nearing the end of the journey they had for so long traveled in friendly company, reminding them that though they may be parted here for a season, yet their souls will soon be joined in happy union in that heaven to which we are all hastening, unless the great gulph shall divide us from those we love. In the name, and on behalf of the son and daughters, he then presented Mr. Wells with a valuable gold watch, which was received by Mr. Wells, who called upon Rev. Tuttle to make the response in the name of the recipients, which he did in a very happy manner and at some length.

This portion of the ceremonies being now over, a bountiful repast was spread before the guests, to which they did ample justice, a band of music on the front porch enlivening the scene by discoursing some sweet airs during supper. Besides the presents enumerated the handsome parlors were newly furnished with a set of handsome furniture, a present from the son and daughters and their husbands present.

The bride and groom of 50 years ago were in excellent health and spirits: the bride looking bright and cheery, the groom dignified and patriarchal. Long may they live to enjoy the peace and quiet of their lengthened years, the comforts of home and the society of their children and grandchildren.

## Wilkes-Barre in 1827.

WILKES-BARRE, March 28, 1887.—EDITOR RECORD: Your notice in this morning's paper of it being 25 years since Mr. H. H. Derr arrived in Wilkes-Barre, and the remarks as to increase in population, modes of travel, etc., reminds me that it is just 60 years since I walked down the mountain and into Wilkes-Barre. My father bought a "Jersey wagon" (covered) and two horses in Philadelphia to convey his family to Wyoming Valley, (having there engaged with Mr. Thomas Dow to cultivate his farm "on shares"). We left Philadelphia on Thursday afternoon, reached Heller's tavern at the Wind Gap, Blue Mountain, on Saturday evening—rested over Sunday—resumed our journey on Monday, and on Tuesday afternoon arrived in Wilkes-Barre, April 1, 1827 and took possession of the farm. The house (of logs) was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the court house, on what is now Hazle Avenue, then Lowrytown Road; this house and another small log house at the corner of Main and Blackman Streets, were the only dwellings on the place. I presume there are now living on the same property, more inhabitants than there were at that time in the borough of Wilkes-Barre. The only house between our house and the homestead of General W. M. Ross, on Main Street, was Judge Rhone's (then McCarragher's) and a small house and distillery on Dana lot, where a small stream crosses the road.

RICHARD SHARPE.

A short time ago you published a communication in reference to the cold, wet summer of 1816 and asked if any other of your readers could furnish items in relation thereto. I well remember going with my father into the harvest field and seeing him untie the sheaves of wheat and spreading them out to dry, and this on account of frequent showers. The process had to be repeated before the grain could be housed or stacked. Owing to the wet weather a large amount of the grain sprouted, and I remember the bread made from it tasted as though sweetened with sugar.

R. S.

What is believed to be the original charter of Philadelphia, made in 1691, has been discovered among some old papers of Colonel Alexander Biddle. This document antedates by ten years, the charter of 1701, which is in the museum of Independence Hall.

"A History of the Region of Pennsylvania North of the Ohio and West of the Allegheny River, of the Indian Purchases and of the Running of the Southern, Northern and Western State Boundaries," is the title of a work edited by Hon. Daniel Agnew.

**Etymology of "Susquehanna."**

Heckewelder, in his "Indian Names of Rivers, Creeks and other Noted Places in Pennsylvania, together with their meaning, &c., (original MS., Hist. Soc. Pa.), states: "The Indian, (Lenape) distinguish the River which we call Susquehanna thus: The North Branch they call *M'chwewamisipu*, or to shorten it *M'chwewormink*, from which we have called it Wyoming. The word implies: *the River on which are extensive clear Flats.* The Six Nations, according to Pylæus [Moravian missionary] call it *Gahonta*, which had the same meaning.

"The West Branch they call *Quenischachgekhanne*, but to shorten it they say *Quenischachacki*. The word implies: *the River which has the long reaches or straight courses in it.*

"From the forks, where now the town Northumberland stands, downwards, they have a name (this word I have lost) which implies: *the Great Bay River.* The word Susquehanna, properly *Sisuehanne*, from *Siska* for *mud*, and *hanne*, a *stream*, was probably at an early time of the settling of this country, overheard by some white person while the Indians were at the time of a flood or freshet remarking: *Juh! Achsis quehanne or Sisuehanna* which is: *how muddy the stream is*, and therefore taken as the proper name of the River. Any stream that has become muddy, will at the time it is so, be called *Sisuehanna*."—*Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* for April.

**An Interesting Historical Work.**

Daniel Kulp Cassel, of 4133 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, has secured the copyright of a work upon which he has been engaged for several years past, embracing the history of the Mennonites. The work is of more than local interest, for while it gives a very complete and authentic genealogical record of the early settlers, it likewise embraces within its pages, facts gleaned from all parts of the world bearing upon the history of this Christian sect. The work will, when published, a few months hence, be a volume of about three hundred pages. Among the topics treated might be mentioned the following: Baptism in the early centuries; the Mennonite meetings in Germantown from 1683 down; the names of the subscribers to the building of the first Mennonite Church in 1708, and also those who subscribed for the rebuilding of the edifice in 1770; sketches of old meeting houses; history of the Mennonites of Virginia, Missouri and adjacent States and Territories, and genealogical matters connected with many of the families of Germantown and vicinity, including the Kolbs. (now Kulp) Rittenhouse, Keyers, Cassels and

others. While the copy is almost ready for the printers' hands, Mr. Cassel is still prepared to add any additional matter of an appropriate character, and any person in the possession of information bearing on the subject is cordially invited to correspond with him.—*Nicotown Signal*.

Mr. Cassel, the author of the above stated work, is a relative of Geo. B. Kulp, Esq., of this city.

**Could Not Read His Own Writing.**

NIAGARA FALLS, April 14, 1887.—EDITOR RECORD: I am reminded by the wrapper enclosing the RECORD this morning, that my subscription for the year, expires May 1st, and as I desire to have it continued, I write thus early that not a day may be lost of the satisfaction I take in perusing its contents. I am always interested in everything relating in the Valley of Wyoming, the home of my youth. By this last sentence, I am forcibly reminded that on Saturday last, (the 9th,) I passed my 75th anniversary, well and active as a boy. At my office regularly and ready at all times to attend to business affairs as they may be presented from day to day, for action. I am reminded of an anecdote of many years ago during the life time of Judge Dyer, the borough justice of Wilkes Barre, a man well known there in his day, and noted for his unintelligible hand writing. He once put a warrant in the hands of "old Michael," the then high constable of the borough, for the arrest of a man for some trivial offence. The man was brought before the justice, and the attorney for the defendant took the warrant from the constable, but could not read it, and handed it over to the judge to interpret it, but he soon handed it back saying, "If you expect me to read my own hand writing you must let me see it before it gets cold," much to the amusement of those present. And I find even in this age of progress, some of the letters received require the shrewdness of two or three Philadelphia lawyers to interpret them, and should impress upon all letter writers and correspondents the importance of writing a plain hand. S. PERRINSON.

The *Historical Record* is on file in the library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, as are also the Proceedings and Collections of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.

Dr. B. H. Throop's historical notes, which have been running in the *Seranton Argus* for some weeks have been neatly reprinted in pamphlet form for the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science.

#### The West Branch Magazine.

The initial number of the *Historical Journal*, a monthly record devoted principally to preserving the local history in the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna and Northeastern Pennsylvania in general, has made its appearance. It comprises 32 pages, is edited by John F. Meginness, of the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin*. Some 30 years ago Mr. Meginness wrote a history of the West Branch region under the title of "Otzinachson." He now contemplates a new edition, but has a large amount of material that is more suited to a magazine than to a local history, consequently he has undertaken the publication in question. It will be made up of fragments of history that would otherwise be lost—reminiscences of pioneers, Indian remains, necrology, longevity, and a host of other interesting features. Among the contained matter are articles on Rev. John Bryson, a pioneer Presbyterian divine, stature of Revolutionary soldiers, meteoric shower of 1833, early Methodism in Centre County, latitude of Wilkes-Barre (reprinted from the *RECORD*) and numerous other articles and short items of statistics and manufactures also receive some interesting attention. The subscription price is \$2 per annum.

#### An Instance of Indian Prohibition.

Hon. John Blair Linn, of Bellefonte, says in the *Historical Journal* that the country about the mouth of Lycoming Creek was in 1753 the domain of French Margaret, a Canadian, and niece of Madame Montour. Williamsport now occupies the site of her village, which was noted on Scull's map of 1759 as "French Margaret's Town." She was visited in 1753 by J. Martin Maack, the well-known Moravian missionary among the Indians, who writes thus in his journal:

In the course of conversation, for she was very communicative, she stated that her son and son-in-law had been killed in the winter while on a maraud against the Creeks. On asking permission to deposit our packs with her, until our return from the Delaware town of Quenisobachshooheny, (Linden,) 'Oh,' said she, 'the Indians there have been drinking hard the past week, and you will likely find them all drunk!' On our return she gave us a refreshing draught of milk and entertained us with the family news, speaking of Andrew and of her husband, Peter Quebec, who she said had not drank rum within six years. She has prohibited its use in her town, and yet although she has initiated other reformatory measures within her little realm, she enjoys the respect and confidence of her subjects.

#### Where the Levan Letter Came From.

In the last issue of the *RECORD* appeared two hitherto unpublished letters, one of them relative to the provisioning of Fort Allen (now Allentown) 131 years ago, the writer being Jacob Levan. We are informed by Rev. F. K. Levan, of this city, who is a diligent student of the early history of Northeastern Pennsylvania, that the Mr. Levan who wrote the letter is the ancestor of the Maxatawny branch of the family. The original letter was in the possession of the late Mr. Mickley, the well known Philadelphia antiquarian, and probably has passed into the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The letter published in the *RECORD* is a free translation from the original German, made for our contributor, Mr. C. F. Hill, by Rev. Mr. Levan, who had possession of a verbatim copy of the letter, made by Mr. Mickley himself. The copy is in the possession of Mr. Levan. He laid great store by the original and offered Mr. Mickley a handsome amount for it, but its possessor declined to part with it. We would be pleased to learn the exact whereabouts of the original.

Scheussel's large canvass, "Zeisberger Preaching to the Indians," painted in 1858, at the solicitation of John Jordan, Jr., and Mr. Skirving, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Rufus Grider, of Bethlehem, which attracted considerable attention at the Centennial, was shipped recently to London, England, to be placed among the American exhibits in the exhibition. John Jordan, Jr., who was the owner of the painting, presented it to the Moravian Society for the promotion of the gospel among the heathen, and it has been kept for some years in the archive room of the church at Bethlehem. The painting, which is considered Scheussel's masterpiece, is valued at \$5,000, and has been reproduced as a steel engraving. It was loaned at the earnest solicitation of the directors of the exhibition, some of them having seen it at the Centennial.

Pennsylvania is an immense State, yet it doesn't seem large enough to contain more than one Revolutionary pensioner, a Mrs. Betz, for whose benefit a bill was introduced in the Senate some weeks ago, the object of which is to increase the meagre stipend she at present receives from the State Treasury. Mrs. Betz, who has been a resident of Harrisburg ever since her husband died, thirty-four years ago, was the second wife of Peter Betz, a drummer boy in the Revolutionary war, to whom she was married in 1814, she being then only 16 years of age, while her husband was 55. The venerable dame is

now 89 years old, but for all that is reported to be quite vivacious and likely to "hold the fort" for some years to come as Pennsylvania's only Revolutionary pensioner.—*Exchange.*

#### DEATH OF CHARLES STURDEVANT.

**A Representative of a Pioneer Family Passes From Life—His Mother was in the Battle of Wyoming.**

Charles Sturdevant died at his residence on Hanover Street, April 13, 1887, aged about 75 years, having been born in Braintrim Township, Luzerne County, now Wyoming County, Nov. 12, 1812. With but a single exception (that of an elder sister) he was the last of a large family of brothers and sisters. His brothers were Major John Sturdevant, Gen. E. W. Sturdevant and L. D. Sturdevant, who all died within the last few years, aged respectively 83, 78 and 82 years.

His father, Samuel Sturdevant, emigrated from Connecticut in 1792 and settled upon the banks of the Susquehanna River some 40 miles above the Wyoming Valley, where he became a prominent business man.

The man to whose memory we devote a few passing moments was a merchant in Braintrim until the year 1858, when he removed to this city, where he entered into business in the old Sidney Tracy building, corner of Franklin and Market Streets, where now stands the Wyoming National Bank.

In 1862 he entered the army, serving in the Excelsior Brigade, under Maj. Gen. Sickles and with the 2d Army Corps under Maj. Gen. Hancock until the close of the war. Since that time he has lived upon the farm in South Wilkes-Barre where he passed peacefully away. He was a silent man among men, but the grand old forest trees had a language for him, and the wild bird on hill had no fear at his coming. He was a man full of affection and was loved most by those that knew him best. His wife, a daughter of the late Maj. I. H. Rose, and four daughters survive. One daughter is the wife of Nathan Bennett, Esq. Another the widow of the late Allan Brotherhood. Another is the widow of the late Ziba Faser, and a fourth, Miss Sallie, has occupied a responsible position for several years in the postoffice, in charge of the money order and registered letter department.

Deceased comes from a highly respected family who figured prominently in the early history of the Wyoming region. His parents were Connecticut people, and it may not be generally known that his mother was in the Wyoming fort at the time of the massacre of 1778. She was Elizabeth, daughter of John N. Skinner, and her grandfather was one of the aged men in charge of the fort as

protectors of the women and children. Her father was in the fight. Elizabeth, then a child, and her parents went on foot, with the women and children spared by the Indians, through the wilderness called the "Shades of Death," to the Delaware River and thence to Connecticut. The grandfather of deceased, Rev. Samuel Sturdevant, was a Baptist minister and preached the first sermon known to have been preached by a white man in Abington. Previous to his ministerial life he served throughout the Revolutionary war as an orderly sergeant and captain. After the war he emigrated to Black Walnut, now Wyoming County, where he engaged in farming, and continued to reside until his death in 1828. The maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch was Ebenezer Skinner, who located in 1770 at the north of the Tuscarora Creek, 12 miles below Wyalusing, on lands adjoining the purchase of Rev. Mr. Sturdevant. At the advance of the Indians down the valley in 1778, he and his family went to Forty Fort, by canoe down the Susquehanna River, that being then and for many years the only means of travel up and down the river.

#### Death of Mrs. Perry.

About noon May 5 Mrs. Ann Perry, relict of the late Richard Perry, and mother of our townsman, J. R. Perry, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Susan Stern, 350 North Main Street, aged 92 years. She had resided in this community many years and was generally known and highly respected. She is survived by nine children, six sons and three daughters. Six of her children are now living in this city, J. R., H. C. and S. R. Perry, Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Mary Neiman and Mrs. Margaret Krantz, the latter two residing on Kulp Avenue. The funeral took place Saturday at 4 pm. with interment in Hollenback cemetery.

#### Death of a Forty Fort Lady.

Miss Matilda Ann Adams, sister of Mrs. Rev. E. H. Snowden, of Forty Fort, died at the residence of the latter Thursday, April 14, aged 81 years. About a month ago Miss Adams met with an accident by which she broke one of her arms and sustained internal injuries. For a while she seemed to improve, but her extreme age seemed to be against her ultimate recovery and in the beginning of the week a change for the worse was noticeable. Deceased was a lady universally respected and her friends were legion. Services were held at the house Sunday, at 4 pm., Rev. Dr. Hodge officiating. On Monday the remains were conveyed to Newberg, N. Y., and interred in the family vault.

## REV. I. H. TORRENCE.

**His Severe Affliction—Extensive Acquaintance With Leading Divines—Interesting Personal Reminiscences.**

The friends of Rev. Irvin H. Torrence in the West Branch Valley—and he has many of them—will regret to learn that he is almost totally blind, and therefore deprived from moving about without assistance. Colonel J. Sallade, of Williamsport, who recently visited him at his home at Riverside, opposite Danville, says:

"Among the many regrets we have for the great affliction that now deprives our old and dear friend of his sight, is that we fear he will be unable to carry out his intention of writing a book of facts and incidents of a 44 years' ministerial life, 34 of which were devoted to the Bible Society of all denominations. Perhaps no man in the State has come in contact with more of the older families, or preached in as many pulpits of different denominations than Mr. Torrence. His associations with clergymen, such as Bishops Potter, Bowman and Stevens of the Protestant Episcopal; Myer and Demnie of the Lutheran; Barnee, Boardman and Brainerd of the Presbyterian; Smith and Full of the Baptist, and Durbin, Simpson and Bowman of the M. E. church, and John Chambers, Independent, were close and intimate for years, because of their relations to the Bible Society. Aside from these he was intimately acquainted with hundreds of others.

"Mr. Torrence, I venture to say, occupied more pulpits of more denominations than any other divine in the State of Pennsylvania, and he has also preached at sea in a steamship while returning from Europe, and he has talked and sung with more Sunday school children, not excepting John Waramaker, than any other man. He has also talked and sung to children from the steps of the King's palace in Germany and talked to hundreds of students in Basle, Switzerland.

"He was personally acquainted with all the governors of the State from Porter to Beaver. The former was elected in 1838 and the latter in 1890.

"During the war he was appointed a commissioner to proceed to the Southern Confederacy to relieve the prisoners in Libby and on Belle Isle. He projected a plan to relieve the prisoners at the time of the exchange dead-lock. The hearts of the great North was moved in sympathy for the sufferers, and large amounts of money and provisions could have been raised if he could have reached the prisoners.

"At this point Mr. Torrence devised a plan to reach them, which was endorsed by Governor Curtin, Secretary Stanton, General

Halleck and President Lincoln. The names of these gentlemen are now in the hands of Mr. Torrence respectively endorsing his plans, which are among the unpublished records of the war.

"There was placed at his disposal by the war department the flag ship New York, Captain Mumford commanding, which conveyed him to City Point. On his arrival there he opened a correspondence with the Confederacy, having had a personal acquaintance with Jeff Davis. In response Mr. Davis sent the Roanoke flag ship and a conference was held with Mr. Torrence, and his plans were carried back for the relief of the prisoners. While negotiations were pending Gen. Butler was put in command at Fortress Monroe, and he abruptly stopped all communications, except to allow the sending of vaccine matter, as the small pox was then prevailing to an alarming extent in the Confederate prisons where Union men were held.

"Thus one of the most humane enterprises of the war was defeated and the flag ship with Mr. Torrence returned from the mission of mercy."

Mr. Torrence first commenced preaching in the West Branch Valley, and here his earliest friendships were formed. Although unable to travel and meet his friends as of yore, they will be glad to learn that he is surrounded with comfort, that he is resigned and happy in the consciousness of having done a good work and served his Master faithfully. — *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.*

**Death of Mrs. Hugh McGroarty.**

On May 16 Mrs. Hugh McGroarty, a highly esteemed lady of Miner's Mills, died after less than a week's illness.

Mrs. McGroarty was born in Glenties, County Donegal, Ireland, in 1817. In 1832 she was married to Mr. McGroarty in the same parish, and in 1838 Mr. and Mrs. McGroarty came to America and settled at Summit Hill, Carbon County. Subsequently they removed to Buck Mountain and thence to Sugar Notch, and in 1868 Mr. McGroarty established the Miner's Mills Hotel, of which he continued to be proprietor until 1881.

Mrs. McGroarty was a highly intelligent woman, having a large acquaintance with English literature, in which she turned her attention chiefly to poetry. For 30 years she had been a subscriber to the *Boston Pilot*. Deceased leaves five children, Mrs. Michael Farrell, of Sugar Notch; Mrs. John Murrin, of Carbondale; Mrs. Michael McHale, Miner's Mills; Hugh McGroarty, Jr., and John S. McGroarty. Another son, Barney, died some years ago. Mrs. McGroarty was buried at Buck Mountain.



**Death of Elias Robins.**

After making a brave battle for life against a most painful and relentless disease. Elias Robins died May 17 at Hot Springs, Ark., whither he had gone in the vain hope of finding relief. Mr. Robins was a sufferer from sciatic rheumatism of a most acute and excruciating form and had been unable to attend to business for a year or two. Two months ago he went to Hot Springs with his wife and daughter, and they were with him at the last. He appeared to improve at first, but blood poisoning set in to aggravate his condition, and for some weeks he could not be moved unless put under the influence of morphine.

Mr. Robins was born in Hanover Township, July 1, 1826, and spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. When about 15 years old he came to Wilkes-Barre as a clerk for Ziba Bennett, with whom and whose family he was ever afterwards identified. Mr. Bennett reposed great confidence in his young clerk and seven years later took him into partnership, the firm also including Charles Parrish and being styled Bennett, Parrish & Co. In 1854 the firm was dissolved and Mr. Robins went to Valparaiso, Ind., to engage in business, but a few years experience made him long for the old home and he accordingly returned to Wilkes-Barre, going in again with Mr. Bennett. In 1860 a new firm was formed—Z. Bennett & Co.—consisting of Mr. Bennett, Mr. Robins and Philip Abbott. The firm carried on business for 19 years, but a dissolution was rendered necessary in 1879 by the death of the senior partner, Mr. Bennett. The only change was the taking of Mr. Bennett's interest by the widow, Priscilla Lee Bennett, the firm name becoming Bennett & Co. About 1882, Mr. Abbott removed to St. Paul, where he now resides, and Mrs. Bennett disposed of her interest to her grandson, Frank Phelps, who with Mr. Robins continued the business as the Bennett Hardware Company up to the present time.

Mr. Robins was a man of sterling integrity, strictly devoted to business and a man who was recognized in the community as a kind husband, an affectionate father and a most excellent citizen. He mingled little with the general activities of the town, though he was at one time a member of the school board and was during all his late years a trustee and treasurer of the Home for Friendless Children, discharging the duties in a painstaking and faithful manner. He was a member of the official board of the First M. E. Church, as also a member of the church and taking an active interest in the Sunday school.

Mr. Robins was twice married, his first wife being Mary A. Mills, of Hanover Town-

ship, who bore him five children, of whom only two are living, Norman, residing in Indiana, and Mary E., living at home. The late Mrs. Jesse T. Morgan was a daughter. His second wife, who survives him, was Miss Sarah J. Overton.

Deceased was the son of John Robins, who was born in New Jersey and settled in Hanover shortly after 1800. Elias was the youngest of a family of eight children, of whom Elizabeth married Lewis Whitlock, Mary died unmarried in 1830, Cornelius married Hanuah Wiggins, Abner married Catherine Fastnach, Margaret married Nathan G. Howe, John G. died unmarried, and James H. married Harriet Monega. Besides this branch of the Robins family, Hanover Township has been peopled by another branch, also from New Jersey, the two probably having more representatives than any other name in the township.

**Death of Edward Enterline.**

Edward Enterline, the well known dealer in hides, tallow, etc., died Tuesday afternoon, May 3, at his home on South Main Street, aged 65 years. Mr. Enterline was formerly a wealthy and prominent citizen of Tamaqua, whence he came to Wilkes-Barre in 1875. He was born in Gratz, Dauphin County, Ang. 8, 1821, where he learned the tanner's trade. Moving early in life to Tamaqua, he there became proprietor of a large tannery in that place and achieved a large fortune, all of which was lost in the panic of 1873.

Shortly afterward Mr. Enterline removed to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in the hide and tallow business in which he has been successful. Deceased had been suffering from heart disease which became complicated with lung trouble recently, causing him to take to his bed a few days ago. Mrs. Enterline, whom he married in 1841, is lying ill at her home suffering from the result of a surgical operation. Mr. and Mrs. Enterline have had 10 children, five of whom are still living, three being daughters, one of whom is Mr. C. Ben Johnson, of this city.

The funeral took place from the late residence, 250 South Main Street, Friday, at 7:30 am. Interment was made at Tamaqua.

The Doylestown Democrat for March 15, contains a contribution signed E. M., entitled: "New Britain Homesteads—Lands of the Delaneys, the Hines Family." The progenitor of the Hines family came to America from Ireland about 1730 and the family have ever since been prominent in Bucks County. One of them served his country as an officer during the Revolutionary struggle.

**Capt. John Dennis Dead.**

At 2:50 pm. May 3, Capt. John Dennis, who has been prostrated with a paralytic stroke, died at his residence in Parsons. He was born in Beerlston, Devonshire, England, in 1810 and came to this country in 1848 and settled in Scranton. He remained there until 1851 and then removed to Pittston, where he resided only about 10 months, when he removed to Phoenixville, Chester County. He lived there for three years and then took up his home in Plymouth, where he lived until 1856. Here he entered the business of contracting for the sinking of shafts, etc., in and around the mines. He sank the Patton shaft in Poke Hollow, the first shaft put down on the west side of the river in this section. In 1856 he moved to the Empire and was the contractor for the sinking of that shaft under the superintendency of Charles Parrish. He moved from the Empire to Buttonwood in 1859 and started the sinking of the shaft there but before it was completed moved to Arlington, N. J., and from there to Orange County, N. Y., where he was superintendent of the Erie lead mines, where he remained long enough to furnish lead enough to conquer the rebellion, the works which he superintended sending out 300 tons of lead per month. He left Orange County in 1867 and moved to this vicinity where he remained until the hour of his death, though he never entered active business again. In 1831 he was elected Burgess of Plymouth and served two terms. About a year ago he moved to Parsons. He was twice married and is survived by his second wife and seven children by his first wife, whom he married in England and who died in Wilkes-Barre in 1878. His eldest son, John, died in Plymouth in 1854. The surviving children are Richard, now living in San Francisco; William A., of San Jose, Cal.; Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Gunton, of Wilkes-Barre; Samuel J. and F. H., of Arlington, N. J., and J. R., now residing in New York. He had no children by his second wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Jones, of Plymouth, and to whom he was united some three years ago.

The funeral took place on Thursday, at 11 am. from the house at Parsons, with interment in Plymouth Cemetery.

In 1817 the average price of wheat in this region was \$3.50 per bushel. In 1827, the price was \$2. The following are the average prices from that time to 1877, taken every ten years: 1837, \$3.50; 1847, \$3.15; 1857, \$2.75; 1867, \$3.25; 1877, \$2. The present price is about 90 cents per bushel.—*Bucks County Intelligencer.*

**Death of Bernard Frauenthal.**

Bernard Frauenthal, one of the most widely known of Wilkes-Barre merchants, died at his residence 29 South Main Street, at 10:30 pm. April 23, aged 54 years, of a complication of diseases beginning a month ago with inflammation of the bowels. The immediate cause of his death was the rupture of a blood vessel early in the afternoon, the patient being unable to rally after it.

Mr. Frauenthal was born in Bavaria in 1838 and came to America in 1856, settling in Wilkes-Barre, which has since been his home. He was engaged as clerk for some time with his brother Samuel, whose place of business was in one of the old buildings on Public Square, just demolished by Edward Welles. From there he went for a short time to Pittston, where he managed his brother's boot and shoe store. While in Pittston in 1861, he married Mrs. Bomberg, nee Lowenstein, who owned a dry goods store in Wilkes-Barre, and shortly thereafter returned to this city where he embarked in the dry goods business at 29 South Main Street, in which he remained till his death. Mr. Frauenthal leaves a wife and two daughters, Rebecca and Carrie. He is also survived by four brothers, Samuel of this city, Henry and Abraham, of St. Louis, and William L., of New York, and by one sister, Mrs. Solomon Abrahams.

Deceased was a member of 10 lodges, being a prominent mason of nearly 20 years' standing. He was a member of Masonic Council. I. O. O. F. and A. L. of H. The funeral will take place on Wednesday at 2:30. Interment will be in the Jewish cemetery.

**Death of Miss Ellen C. Rutter.**

Miss Ellen Cist Rutter, the condition of whose health had for a long time been a source of anxiety to her family and friends, died at her father's house on River Street May 21, at about 4 o'clock am. Miss Rutter had suffered from Bright's disease which the best medical skill could not expel from her system.

Miss Rutter was the oldest of N. Rutter's children, of whom all are now dead save Miss Natalie, J. N. and Hervey. She was widely known and esteemed in Wilkes-Barre, being a woman of sweet Christian character and affectionate disposition. Her death will be widely mourned.

The funeral took place from the residence on North River Street Monday at 5 pm. with interment at Hollenback Cemetery, Rev. Dr. Hodge, of whose congregation deceased was a member, officiating.

**DEATH OF MRS. OSTERHOUT.****End of an Illness Contracted Several Months Ago.**

Mrs. Elizabeth Lee Osterhout, widow of the late Isaac S. Osterhout, died at her home, corner of Northampton and Franklin Streets, April 28, at 2 o'clock am., after an illness of several months. Her general health had been good, though her mental faculties seemed to be slightly impaired, until last January when she suffered a severe nervous shock, owing to a fall. Mrs. Osterhout was then compelled to take to her bed, from which she never rose. Her death resulted from a complication of diseases, and on Monday morning she began rapidly to fail, taking no nourishment during the last thirty-six hours of her life.

Mrs. Osterhout's maiden name was Elizabeth Cloyd Lee, daughter of Hon. Thomas Lee, of Port Elizabeth, N. J., where she was born May 4, 1818. Her brother, Hon. Benjamin Lee is clerk of the Supreme Court at Trenton, N. J., a position to which he has just been reappointed for a further term of 5 years. Francis Lee, of Port Elizabeth, is another brother, the oldest of the family, aged 80 years. She leaves one other brother, Clement, an invalid, of Port Elizabeth. Two other brothers are dead, as is also a sister, the family having consisted of 7 children.

In 1840 Miss Lee became Mrs. Isaac S. Osterhout, her husband being the donor of the Osterhout bequest for the foundation and perpetuation of a free public library. Indeed the idea of this magnificent bequest, estimated at \$300,000, was suggested to Mr. Osterhout by his wife and the two were equally interested in the project. Upon his death Mr. Osterhout bequeathed \$30,000 to his wife and a life interest in one-half of his real estate. The remainder of his property, beyond some few minor bequests, being left to nine trustees to accumulate for five years and then be utilized in the establishment of the library.

Inquiry of one of the trustees of the library fund elicited the information that the death of Mrs. Osterhout would probably in no way affect the plans of the trustees with regard to the use of the Presbyterian Church. The income of the trustees will be increased by about \$4,000, making their total annual income, from the estate, in the neighborhood of \$13,000.

The funeral took place April 30, at 3 o'clock. A large number of friends were present at the services, among them the following relatives, Benjamin Lee and son, of Trenton, Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson, of Camden, Dr. and Mrs. Kirby, of Bridgton, N. J., Peter M. Osterhout, of Tunkhannock and

Mr. and Mrs. Draper Smith, of Plymouth. Rev. Henry L. Jones conducted the service and there was singing by Mrs. Thomas, Miss Hillman, Adolph Baur and John B. Yeager. The pall bearers were six of the trustees of the Osterhout Free Library, Hon. E. L. Dana, A. H. McClintock, A. F. Derr, Sheldon Reynolds, Dr. Hodge and Hon. H. B. Payne, the carriers being an equal number from St. Stephen's vestry, O. M. Brandow, F. J. Leavenworth, Garrett Smith, S. L. Brown, Hon. C. A. Miner and Hon. H. W. Palmer. (Owing to the often expressed desire of Mrs. Osterhout there were no flowers at her funeral.

**Mrs. Osterhout's Will.**

The last will and testament of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Lee Osterhout, has been filed and admitted to probate in the office of Register of Wills Boyd. Its provisions are as follows:

To her sister in-law, Mrs. Jane B. Lee, of Bridgeton, N. J., widow of her deceased brother, Lorenzo F., she leaves \$2,000.

To her niece Mrs. Josephine B. Dickinson, of Camden, N. J., daughter of her brother Francis Lee, she leaves \$2,000.

To her cousin, Mrs. Anna Lee Paine, wife of L. C. Paine, she leaves \$1,000.

To her cousin, Miss Margaretta C. Lee, of Wilkes-Barre, she leaves \$2,000.

To her cousin, Mrs. Caroline Bickley, widow of the late Peterson Bickley, \$1,000.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Collings, daughter of the late Andrew Beaumont, \$1,100.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Gilchrist, widow of the late Peter McC. Gilchrist and to Mrs. H. B. Payne, of Kingston, each \$500.

The furniture and other personal property of decedent is bequeathed to a number of her relatives and friends, except her books and some of her pictures, which are donated to the Osterhout Free Library.

All the rest of her estate, real, personal and mixed, is divided as follows:

To her brother Clement J. Lee, of Newport, N. J., one-fifth part.

To her brother Francis Lee, of Port Elizabeth, N. J., one-fifth part.

To her brother Benjamin F. Lee, of Trenton, N. J., one-fifth part.

To her nephew William S. Bowen, of Philadelphia, and to her niece Mrs. Jane B. Kirby, of Bridgeton, N. J., each one-tenth part.

To her nephews Henry S. Lee and Alfred S. Lee, of Evanston, Wyoming Territory; Lorenzo F. Lee, of Eagle Rock, Idaho, and C. S. Lee, of Philadelphia, each one-twentieth part.

Of the legatees, two have died since the will was made, Mrs. Collings and Mrs. Gilchrist.

If any of the legatees objects to any of the provisions of the will or contest the same,

then the legacy to such legatee shall become null and void.

The will is dated Dec. 23, 1882, and appoints L. C. Paine and A. H. McClintock as executors. The signature was witnessed by Harrison Wright, since dead, and A. T. McClintock.

#### A Former Wilkes-Barrean Dead.

Alexander H. Dana, a prominent lawyer in New York City for many years, died early Wednesday morning, April 27, of peritonitis, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. H. Noyes, at Montclair, N. J. Mr. Dana was born in Owego, N. Y., July 4, 1807. He was a son of Eleazar Dana, president judge of that district, who was a brother of Anderson Dana, Sr., and in early life removed from Wilkes-Barre to Owego. Deceased was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, when he was 17 years of age. He studied law in New York, and began practice before he was 21. He was first associated with a Mr. Egan, but afterward became head of the firm of Dana, Woodruff & Leonard. This connection existed until 1854, when he took offices with Clarkson N. Potter. After that he either practiced by himself or was associated with his son, Francis E. For the last five years he did little work. One of his last important cases was the controversy had by the Stewart estate with the Lelands, in which he was successful. He was a very effective pleader, possessing a good voice and fluency of language. He wrote the law articles for the first edition of Appleton's New American Encyclopedia. He was the author of "Enigmas of Life, Death and the Future State," and "Ethical and Physiological Inquiries." His wife died in 1879, and since then he has lived alternately with his married daughters in Montclair and Brooklyn. He leaves two sons and three daughters. Of the sons Francis E. is a lawyer and the Rev. Dr. M. Dana, a minister at St. Paul, Minn. The funeral took place from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. E. A. Street, 286 Hancock Street, Brooklyn.

#### Gregory was Named for Him.

George Gregory, of this township, died April 8. He had been ailing for some time, although not supposed seriously. But the culmination of his disease took place unexpectedly, and Friday morning he died. Mr. Gregory was over 67 years of age, and had always been a resident of Hunlock. By his own exertions he acquired a good, practical education—rather better than the most of his school fellows—and taught several terms of common schools. He was elected in early life to the then important office of justice of the peace, in Union Township. Sub-

sequently, he was elected to various other township offices, all of which he filled satisfactorily to those who elected him. Nearly thirty years ago, he and his brother Benjamin built the grist mill, at the place now known as Gregory. He also owned the grist mill at Ceasetown, in Jackson Township. In early life he married Miss Frances Roberts, who survives him, and is now the postmistress of Gregory postoffice. A large congregation of friends assembled at the funeral on Sunday at the homestead, to pay their last respects to a generous and obliging neighbor and a useful, memorable man.

#### A White Haven Contractor Dead.

John W. Levan died at White Haven Monday, May 9, after an illness that confined him to his bed for only three days, at the age of 58 years. Mr. Levan was up to the time of his death one of the most extensive coal breaker designers and builders in the Lehigh region. He has been the builder of breakers for A. Pardee & Co., John Leisenring & Co. and Coxe Bros. & Co. for the past ten years. He had just completed at the time of his death a very large and modern designed breaker for the Silver Brook Coal Co. in Schuylkill County.

Deceased is survived by his wife and several adult children. The eldest son, Lafayette, is the general superintendent of the Oliver Chilled Plow Works in South Bend, Ind. Daniel H. has been associated with his father in breaker building and other contract work. The firm built the several saw mills of Albert Lewis & Co., the latest being one at Harvey's Lake. Of the daughters, Elizabeth is the wife of Gaius L. Haleey, Esq.; Alice is the wife of A. W. Fellows; Abbie is the wife of William F. Porter, principal of the White Haven schools. All the children except Lafayette reside in White Haven and he arrived prior to his father's death.

Mr. Levan occupied a foremost position in the business interests of White Haven and was a prominent and highly respected citizen. He took a leading interest in the construction of the inter-county bridge, recently erected by Luzerne and Carbon Counties, and was one of the partners in the White Haven Bronze Burial Casket Co. He was a member of the town council for many years. Mr. Levan was a regular attendant upon the services of the Presbyterian Church. He gave detailed directions as to his funeral, specifying that he be buried under Masonic auspices in the family plot at Siegfried's Bridge, Northampton County.

**Death of Mrs. Munson.**

[Letter to the Editor.]

Mrs. Elizabeth Munson, mother of D. A. Munson, died at her son's in Franklin Township, Columbia Co., on Thursday, the 5th inst., after an illness of nearly six weeks. The deceased was born July 7, 1797. Her father, Christian Atherholt, was one of the first settlers in the back part of Kingston Township, Luzerne Co., when all was a wilderness, for I have often heard Mrs. Munson tell about the hard times when their small crops were cut off by the frost. Once I remember her telling that all they had to eat was milk and roasted apples, also that she had worked a week for a yard of calico. She used also to tell about the wolves howling in packs near by, and some of them venturing even to come on the roof of their log cabin.

She was the second wife of Abel Munson, his first wife being Elizabeth Shaver, by whom were born seven children, Philip, Charles, Walter, Mary Ann, Asa, George and Able. By the second wife, David A. Mrs. Munson reared five of the step-children to manhood and womanhood, unprotected by a husband's hand, for as some of the readers of this piece will remember, Able Munson was killed Dec. 8, 1836, by the upsetting of his wagon along the narrows in Toby's Creek, where it is supposed he froze to death, as he was found with his head out of water. The team was also dead. The step children now alive are Philip, now a resident of Michigan; George of Iowa; Asa of Kingston Township, Luzerne Co. Mary Ann married George Atherholt, but died, leaving a child a week old, a girl, whom Mrs. Munson took, and with her son D. A., reared to womanhood, when she became the wife of George Johnson, of Brown's Corners, Jackson Township. There are living yet of her sisters, Mary, the wife of Hiram Harris, Rachel, the wife of John Anderson, and David Atherholt, their only brother. Those dead were Katy Schooley, wife of Isaac Schooley; Esther Delay, wife of Jacob Delay, and Nancy Fazer, wife of your townsman, John Fazer.

Mrs. Munson lived in Kingston Township until April 1, 1872, when she, with her son D. A., moved to Franklin Township, Columbia Co., where she enjoyed reasonably good health up to within a few weeks of her death. She was a member of the christian church for 40 years or more, and a strict attendant to church duties. She was buried at Mt. Zion, the funeral being conducted by Rev. W. S. Hamlin. May her christian-like life lead the family she left to higher attainments in the spiritual life that they may meet her on the other shore. D. A. M.

Franklin Township, May 14, 1887.

**Mrs. Clement Hooper Dead.**

Rebecca M. Metzger, wife of Clement Hooper, daughter of Daniel Metzger and sister of Charles B. and Miss Linda Metzger, died Sunday, May 15, aged 48 years, 11 months and 3 days, at her home, 31 Madison Street. Mrs. Hooper died of a complication of lung and heart troubles, though her death came suddenly. She was married to Mr. Hooper in 1839, at the Metzger homestead, now occupied by Wm. Stoddart, they removing soon after to Philadelphia, where her husband was actively engaged as a contractor. His health breaking down, they removed to Wilkes-Barre. Deceased was an active member of Memorial Presbyterian Church and a worker in the Sunday School. She was educated at Wyoming Seminary, graduating therefrom in 1854. From that time until her marriage, 15 years later, she taught school, and there are hundreds of persons in Wilkes-Barre, now grown up and married, who received their first education at her hands. Like her mother, she was fond of going about doing good, and was a welcome visitant in the sick-rooms of such of her acquaintances as needed her kindly ministrations. She was one of earth's noblest women, and there will be many an aching heart upon hearing of her demise. Besides her father and husband, five children are left to sorrow for a loving and indulgent mother—Cynthia, William, Carrie, Mary, Juliet. The funeral took place Tuesday at 4 o'clock. Interment in the family plot in Hollenback Cemetery.

**Death of an Octogenarian.**

Mrs. Esther McCarty, of Dallas, whose husband died several years ago, died on May 22d at 2 pm., after two or three weeks' illness, of rheumatism. Mrs. McCarty 8 years ago suffered a fracture of the hip, and had been unable to walk since. She had lived half a century in Dallas and was at the time of her death 88 years of age.

Mrs. McCarty leaves a large family of children, all adults: Mrs. James Riley, Mrs. Emilie Johnson, Peter H. McCarty, Wm. McCarty, Enoch McCarty, Harvey McCarty, all of Dallas, Mrs. Elizabeth Worden, a widow, of Harvey's Lake, and Freeman McCarty, of Wilkes-Barre. The funeral took place Tuesday at 2 pm. at the Dallas M. E. Church, with interment in the adjoining cemetery.

—Mrs. Julia A. Brown, widow of Truman Brown, of Jackson, Luzerne County, died at the residence of her son, Marion Brown, on Monday, May 2, aged 81 years. She was a sister of Gordon and Butler Sweetland, of Mehoopany.—*Tunkhannock New Age.*

## ROUT OF THE SIX NATIONS.

**Sullivan's Expedition in 1779—The Journals of the Officers and Centennial Proceedings of 1879 About to be Published by the State of New York.**

Maj.-Gen. John Sullivan and the officers who accompanied him on his expedition against the Six Nations of Indians in 1779 were certainly among the luckiest ones of the American Revolutionary war. They were lucky at the time in being detailed to perform a task in which the chances were many to one in favor of winning fame at the least exposure to danger, lucky in the time of year selected for their expedition, lucky in having been set upon the Indians at a time when the latter were poorly prepared to offer resistance, and lucky in having been given authority to exterminate as they went along. The operations of these Indians and their Tory leaders in the Mohawk Valley, in Schoharie, at Cherry Valley and at Wyoming had convinced the American commander that the most humane solution of the Indian problem then under consideration was to wipe out the power if not the persons of those troublesome New York tribes. The time selected for striking the blow was in summer, when the invading army would be able to destroy the growing as well as the stored supplies of the enemy, thereby reducing to want whatever number might survive the sword. The expedition started from the point of rendezvous on the Susquehanna, in Pennsylvania, in June, accomplished the object of its mission, and, returning, arrived at the point of departure in October. Any one acquainted with the country which Sullivan's army traversed would say that a midsummer journey through it must be a pleasant experience under the most trying conditions. The march of this military command was a picnic compared with the average experience of other sections of the American Army of the Revolution. The fame of the expedition would be secured by the fact of its having made an end of the power of the Six Nations, but it was preserved for a perpetual presence by the literary zeal and industry of the subordinate officers of the command.

The good luck of the expedition followed it after the war and is still with it. The many minute and accurate journals fell into the right hands for their preservation and now, after more than a hundred years, the conditions for their permanent keeping in book form are singularly propitious. In 1879 centennial celebrations of Sullivan's march were held at prominent points along the line, notably at Elmira, where the first important engagement was had with the Indians; at Waterloo, in commemoration of the

events in Geneva County; at Geneseo, the ultimate point of the march, and at Aurora on Cayuga Lake, the site of one of the Indian towns that were destroyed. The Legislature of 1879 passed an act authorizing the publication under the direction of the Secretary of State of the proceedings of similar celebrations of the hundredth anniversary of the battles of Oriskany and Saratoga, and of the founding of the State at Kingston. In 1884 an item of \$5,000 was put in the Supply Bill to pay for the publication of the proceedings of the Sullivan celebrations and the journals kept by the officers of the expedition, but Gov. Cleveland vetoed it, not deeming the matter to be collected and published of sufficient public importance to justify the expenditure. In 1885 a special act providing for this publication was passed and was signed by Gov. Hill. The Comptroller refused to permit the work to go on, however, because the amount to be expended, \$5,000, was not specifically appropriated. Last year this defect was remedied by placing the amount in the regular Supply Bill. These records could not well be published by private enterprise. However desirable it might be to have them in accessible and authentic form, they would not make a book for popular sale. It was therefore fortunate for the Sullivan expedition that the Governor, who was to approve of the appropriation, was a native and life resident of the region through which the march was made. He had a personal pride in putting the record in book form. Another circumstance in favor of having the work of publishing this record done accurately and promptly is that it falls upon the present Deputy Secretary of State, Diedrich Willers, Jr., a resident of Seneca County, and something of an enthusiast on the history of the Six Nations.

Mr. Willers is now reading the proofs of the volume, which is published under contract by Knapp, Peck & Thomson, of Auburn. It will be a book of over 700 pages, printed and bound in popular book form. The editorial supervision primarily is in charge of Gen. John S. Clark, of Auburn, who has enriched the text with abundant foot-notes which throw much clear and useful side-light on the narrative. There are 26 distinct journals by Sullivan's officers. Some of them are for the most part daily entries, giving the condition of the troops, the distance marched, the state of the weather, and the kind of country met with, while others are remarkably full. It seems as if the journalizers regarded their enterprise as one that future generations would be anxious to know all about. Besides the journals the book will contain accounts of the centennial celebrations of 1879, steel portraits of the principal officers, including

Gen. Sullivan, Gen. James Clinton, who conducted the right wing of the invading army from the Mohawk Valley by way of Otsego Lake and the Susquehanna to "Tioga Point," now Athens, Pa.; Col. Philip von Courtland, Col. Peter Gansevoort and others; also a most valuable feature in the shape of maps of the main march and the most important of the sub-expeditions into the country of the Senecas and Cayugas. These maps are not deductions from the text of the journals. They are fac similes of maps made by the geographers and surveyors of the expedition. The route of the main march and the diversion through the Cayuga country were measured by the chain of the surveyor who accompanied the army, and accurate maps were made and preserved. In reading these journals and examining the maps one is surprised to see how the distances and comments on the country, then a forest save where the Indians had their corn-fields and their vegetable-gardens, tally with the more accurate surveys of recent times. The length, size, character, and possibilities for navigation of the lakes from Cayuga westward as far as Sullivan marched in this State are set forth with an accuracy which left nothing for subsequent explorers and pioneers to add. Throughout the journals the original nomenclature and orthography have been preserved.

Gen. John Sullivan was engaged in the thickest of the fight for American independence, but his name might not be remembered before some of his compeers if it were not connected with this last struggle of the Six Nations for existence. He commanded the first American force that offered armed resistance to Great Britain. This was in December, 1774, near Portsmouth, N. H., the December before the battle of Lexington. He was born in Berwick, Maine, February 17, 1740, and was bred a lawyer. In 1775 he was appointed Brigadier-General. The next year he went to Canada with a reinforcement, and by reason of his successes he was commissioned a Major-General in August, 1776. He did good work in the battle of Long Island, where he was captured. Having been exchanged, at Trenton, in 1776, he was in command of Gen. Lee's division. In 1777 he made a raid upon Staten Island, commanded the right of the American forces at Brandywine, gained a victory over the British at Germantown, but was afterwards repulsed, did some excellent service in Rhode Island, and was next selected by Gen. Washington to lead the famous expedition against the Six Nations. Throughout that incursion the strictest military discipline was enforced. It is probably true that no separate command during

the Revolutionary war was handled with the intelligence and appreciation of the work in hand that characterized the rout of the Six Nations. When he returned from the Indian country, Sullivan resigned his commission and re-entered Congress, which he had left in 1775 to take a command. From 1782 to 1786 he was Attorney General of New Hampshire, and for the next three years Governor of the State. His last service was on the bench as Federal Judge of New Hampshire, which position he held from 1789 till his death in 1795.

But for this Sullivan march into the western country of the Six Nations, New York State would have no soil west of Oneida and Oswego Counties, from the lake to the Pennsylvania border, that was touched by the Revolutionary war. The left wing of Burgoyne's army from Oswego was headed off at Fort Stanwix (Rome) and Oriskany, and its line of march bounded the Revolutionary territory of New York State on the west, except as to Sullivan's invasion. The country through which the Sullivan army marched must always be noted for charming scenery, richness of soil and the contentment and intelligence of its people. From Wyoming to the junction of the Eastern Susquehanna and the Chemung Rivers the valley is narrow but fertile. From this junction to Elmira some of the richest farms of Southern New York are spread out. The route thence to the head of Seneca Lake is the least attractive of Sullivan's entire march. It was on this portion that the army met their most disagreeable experiences. The journals of the officers agree in execrating the Catharine swamp and the marsh land at the head of the lake. From where the village of Havana now stands the army bore to the right and followed the east shore of Seneca Lake, rounding the foot of it and making one of its most noted halts where Geneva now stands. Thence the line was west, past the north end of Canandaigua Lake on to the Genesee River, near the village of Genesee. This river being considered the western limit of the country to be invaded, the army countermarched intact till it arrived at the site of Geneva. Thence three expeditions were sent out, one, under Col. Peter Gansevoort, through the territory of the Onondagas, the Oneidas and the Mohawks, to Albany as the terminus of the march; another, under Col. William Butler, to cross the foot of Cayuga Lake and traverse its eastern shore; the third, under Col. Deerborn, to proceed to the west shore of Cayuga Lake and follow it to the head of the lake. Meantime the main army under Sullivan continued their return march up the east shore of Seneca Lake over the line advanced upon. Col. Butler and Col. Deer-

born had orders to follow Cayuga Lake on either side to its head and thence to proceed across country and join the main army at or near Newtown, now Elmira. Col. Butler on the east side of Cayuga Lake destroyed an Indian village where Union Springs now is, another where the pretty village of Aurora now sits by the lake side, and others on his way up to the site of the present Ithaca. There he expected to be joined by Col. Deerborn, but the two detachments did not reunite till they joined the main army on the Chemung. About two miles south of Ithaca the last Indian village the expedition encountered was destroyed. When the army was reunited, all except Gen. Gansevoort's Mohawk detachment, near Newtown, a jollification was held after which the march back to Wyoming for further service was successfully accomplished. The journals of the officers mention a minor expedition that was sent up the Chemung valley, while the main army was waiting at Newtown for the Cayuga Lake expedition, to dislodge any Indians that might be found as far west as Painted Post.—*H. D. C. in New York Evening Post, Albany Letter.*

#### The Merediths are Mixed.

A writer in the *Honesdale Independent* says the remains of Gen. Samuel Meredith, whom President Washington appointed United States Treasurer and whom Thomas Jefferson complimented for his integrity, lie buried at Belmont, Wayne Co., Pa., in a grave unmarked by any fitting memorial, and this writer, after lamenting this sad fact, says:

"You will allow me to say that history informs me that Samuel Meredith was born in Philadelphia in 1779, and educated in the University of Pennsylvania. He was admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1805, to the Wayne County bar in 1810 and to the Luzerne County bar in 1816. He was Prothonotary, and Register and Recorder of Wayne County from 1818 to 1821. In 1824 he opened the first coal mine below Carbondale. He was a man of energy and tact and died at Trenton, N. J., in March, 1855."

Washington was first inaugurated as President in April 1789, when Mr. Meredith, according to the above, was only 10 years old and rather young to be treasurer of the United States. At the beginning of Washington's second term, Mr. Meredith could have been only 14, and when Washington finally retired only 18. When the "Father of his Country" died, Mr. Meredith could not have been many months over 20 years old. The Wayne County antiquarian has either got his dates wrong or made Mr. Meredith treasurer at the wrong time. That worthy lived long enough to have been treasurer under President Taylor—when William M. Meredith, of Philadelphia, was secretary of the Treasury—or even under

President Pierce for two years.—*Exchange.*

The foregoing from the last issue of the *Milford, Pa., Gazette*, appears to present a case of very much mixed history. The tangle is straightened out, however, when it is explained that the Wayne County writer has given Thomas Meredith's history for Samuel Meredith's, the former having been the son of the latter. One of Thomas' daughters is Mrs. Capt. Graham, of this city. Samuel Meredith was treasurer of the United States under Washington and contributed with Mr. Robert Morris and other mutual friends the first monies that ever found their way into the treasury of the United States. The fact was developed in a letter written by John Sherman while secretary of the treasury after a careful examination of the old records of the office. His descendants have documentary evidence of the donation, which, by the way, is said never to have been repaid either to him or his descendants. C. B. J.

#### Descendant of a Pioneer Family.

John S. Marcy was born Nov. 1, 1821, in Marcy Township, and has lived there all his life, with the exception of 3 years when in the late war. Mr. Marcy's family consisted of eight children, four of whom are living. One is the wife of Charles Marcy, of Marcy Township, Lackawanna County; another is the wife of P. M. Conniff, of Wilkes-Barre, and J. W. Marcy, of Kingston, and M. G. Marcy, living at home. John Marcy's grandmother was the wife of Ebenezer Marcy and daughter of Jonathan and Content Spencer, of Saybrook, Conn., afterwards of Fishkill, N. Y. Ebenezer was born Feb. 11, 1768. He was proprietor of a mill in Wyoming Valley and was at the fort on the east side of the river when the massacre occurred on the west side. The boats having been removed he was unable to be present at the fight. In the fight Ebenezer Marcy's wife gave birth to a child on Pocono Mountain, which she named Thankful. Having subsequently returned to Wyoming Valley Thankful died at the age of 19.

#### Almost a Nonagenarian.

[Catawissa News Item.]

Mrs. Elizabeth Munson, mother of D. A. Munson, died at her son's in Franklin Township, on Thursday, the 5th inst., after an illness of nearly six weeks. The deceased was born July 7, 1797, died May 5th, 1897, aged eighty-nine years, nine months and twenty-eight days; her father was one of the first settlers in Kingston Township, Luzerne County, where she lived until in April 1872, when she, with her son D. A., her only child, moved to Franklin Township.



**Old Time Dancing Masters.**

[Letter to the Editor.]

I doubt if anything makes a deeper impression on the young than the glory of the first dancing school. If any exception be taken to this assertion, all I can say in return is, I am speaking for myself.

The first teacher I had the honor of performing under was a sedate gentleman by the name of Tobias, from Lancaster. That city had produced some distinguished men, but in my view none equal to Mr. Tobias. He was a man of good presence, good manner, had the use of his heels, and was a medium violinist.

I think it was in 1839, he opened his school at Morgan's, on the present site of Mr. Darling's dwelling in Wilkes-Barre and another at Atherton's hotel in Plymouth. To get all out of the thing that was in it, I attended both. It was an easy matter, on a good horse, to ford the river at Plymouth, pass up through the Inman and Lazarus flats, and thence on to Morgan's. Dark nights or stormy ones, or even a slight freshet, was no hindrance to an ambitious youth of 19, in search of knowledge. All the young damsels of the county seat attended the school. This probably had some weight; for that class of young ladies has never been excelled.

After this, probably the outcrop of Mr. Tobins' laborers amongst us, there was the annual ball on the 22d February at the Phoenix. To this came the notables of Berwick, Danville, Bloom, Tunkhannock and other outlying cities.

Porter, the memorable landlord of the Phoenix, had what was called a spring floor. It was over the long dining room and supported only at the sides of the apartment. The combined tramp of many feet, in time with the band, produced a vibratory motion something like the teeter of a buckboard. It always seemed a wonder to me, the whole affair didn't crash down with its live freight.

This short history pertaining to the subject of the dance, would be deficient without mention of Messrs. Morton and Jones. They were the successors of Mr. Tobias. Their school, very large and successful, was at the Dennis Hotel, where is now the National Bank.

Mr. Morton, from Philadelphia, was a very polite gentleman, short of build, yellow haired, florid complexion and frolicsome on his legs as a young colt. I never look at the picture of Pickwick in his oratorical attitude, but it reminds me of Morton. Mr. Jones, *per contra*, was a very slim young gentleman. Nature must have had a fiddler in view, when drafting the plans and specifications of his makeup. He had the most delicate of hands, with fingers like straws. How could

he be else than a prime manipulator of the strings?

I suppose it would be proper to seek pardon for making reference to matters of such minor importance, knowing that the cotillion has gone down with many other barbaric usages of our ancestors. Our more favored classes of the present day will scarce thank me for calling off their attention from the german, the polka, the waltz, and other matters coming in on the tide of reform. But the editor of the *Historical Record* called for items of antiquity, and this rambling sketch is in obedience to his demand.

C. E. WRIGHT.

**The Federal Constitution.**

Pennsylvania was the first of the large States to adopt the Federal Constitution. The excitement it called forth was intense, and the papers of the day were filled with able essays regarding it. In these papers will be found (almost entire) the debates in the Pennsylvania Convention called to ratify the Constitution. They have never been printed except in that form. What Elliot gives as the debates in the Pennsylvania Convention is nothing but the substance of James Wilson's remarks made in a running debate, brought into the form of a single speech. What called forth these remarks does not appear; nor are the views of the minority of the convention, which embody the very spirit of subsequent amendments to the Constitution, given at all.

It was hoped that upon the centennial anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution Congress would make provision for collecting and publishing everything showing the development of thought that led to its formation. But as the appropriation requested for this purpose failed to pass, it is left to the citizens of each State to preserve the records of the part their ancestors bore in this momentous period of our country's history. Pennsylvania's part in the organization of the government, as in the struggle which preceded it, was broad and honorable—more broad and honorable than has ever heretofore been set forth. The example she set in recognizing the claims of the smaller States made the adoption of the Constitution possible.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania desires to place this record permanently before the country. It proposes to publish in a single volume of 750 pages the debates in the Pennsylvania convention, and the ablest essays printed at the time, and if the space will allow, biographical notices of the members of the State Convention, and of Pennsylvania's representatives in the Federal Convention. The work is to be edited by Professor John Bach McMaster.

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

#### Discussing the Proposed Removal into the Osterhout Library Building.

The last regular meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society held in the old rooms took place May 13, President E. L. Dana in the chair. A large number of members were present.

Gen. Dana announced that the meeting was for the purpose of discussing the proposition to remove into the old First Presbyterian church.

From the discussion which followed later in the evening it was obvious that the purpose of the meeting was a surprise to most of the members present, and little preparation had been made to discuss it.

The secretary, Sheldon Reynolds, read from the society's recent correspondence.

Wm. E. Maffet was proposed for membership by Dr. Ingham.

Judge Dana made the meteorological report for Feb.—April. For February the average temperature was 28.9-10 degrees; rain fall 3.47-100 inches; depth of snow fall 8¾ inches. For March, the average temperature was 31½ degree; rain fall 1.84-100 inches; depth of snow fall 3¾ inches. For April, average temperature 42¾ degrees; rain fall 2.16-100 inches; snow fall 9¾ inches. The snow fall during the winter of 1886-7 by months was given as follows: Nov., 1886, 6 inches; Dec., 1886, 10¼ inches; Jan., 1887, 9 inches; Feb., 1887, 8¾ inches; March, 1887, 3.3-14 inches; April, 1887, 9¾ inches; total 47¾ inches. The heaviest snow fall in April since April 20, 1857 occurred April 18, 1887.

Mr. Reynolds reported that the Osterhout trustees had agreed to assign to the society the use of the lecture room, two stories, of the church, which will be ready for occupancy in July. Mr. Reynolds said it had been suggested that the society's library, or a portion of it, be merged into the Osterhout library. The government and State publications, about 3,000 volumes, particularly would be better adapted to the Osterhout library than to the shelves of the Historical Society. The trustees desire that the society inform them as to what repairs are necessary in the portion of the church building set apart for the society.

Judge Dana gave a reminiscent sketch of the growth of the society and paid it a generous eulogy on the position at which it has arrived. He announced that the chief object of the present meeting was to discuss and take action upon the proposed removal from the present quarters. The first thing to be done is to get a plan of the most economical adjustment practicable for the needs of the society. The removal of the

cabinet and library of the society should be in the hands of the curators of the several departments.

Mr. Jones moved that the committee already appointed be renewed and conjoined with the curators to confer with the Osterhout trustees, with power to act. Judge Woodward moved the old committee be discharged and a new one, consisting of the cabinet committee, be appointed in their stead. Mr. Atherton seconded the motion. Carried.

Mr. Edward Welles hoped the library of the society would be put in an alcove by itself and would not lose its individuality by being scattered about the Osterhout shelves. Mr. Reynolds announced that all but the government publications of the society's library would be kept in their rooms adjoining the library. Every one of the books will have the society's book-plate. Mr. Reynolds then moved that the government and State publications be deposited in the reference department of the Osterhout library. Mr. A. T. McClintock moved to amend that the matter be left to the cabinet committee with power to act. After discussion by Judge Woodward, G. R. Bedford and the president, the amendment and motion were withdrawn and the matter was referred to the cabinet committee and Mr. E. Welles. Adjourned to meet on Friday evening, June 3.

The names of the various contributors were read and the contributions were also announced. A vote of thanks was then tendered to all the contributors, who were as follows: Amherst College, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Dr. F. C. Johnson, C. J. Hoadley, Hon. J. R. Wright, Superintendent of Documents John G. Ames, American Geological Society, Director of the United States Mineral Survey of 1885, H. J. Smith, Minnesota Historical Society Governor James A. Beaver, Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, Meriden Science Association, Lewis Swift, Hon. J. A. Scranton, I. A. Stearns, H. J. Hill, W. A. Wilcox, Indiana Historical Society, E. H. Chase, Canadian Institute, American Geographical Society, Bureau of Education, S. H. Lynch, Owen P. Keenly, Department of the Interior, W. G. Sterling, R. G. Huling, Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, Dr. W. H. Sharpe, Virginia Historical Society, Bangor Historical Society, Secretary Internal Affairs J. S. Africa, United States Geological Survey, American Geological Society, I. P. Hand, C. D. Collet of London, A. H. Dickson, *Luzerne County Express*, Telephone, R. Baur & Son, J. C. Coon, A. E. Fouts, W. D. Averell, Percival Gasset, Commissioner of Patents, Travelers' Insurance Company, Iowa Historical Society, George W. Lung, Mrs. S. Horton, Hon. E. L. Dana.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

MAY-JUNE, 1887.

Nos. 9-10.

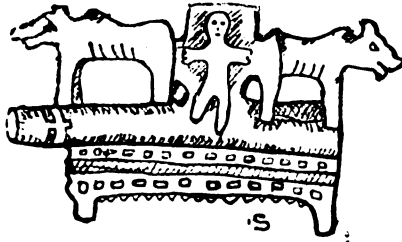
## RELICS OF THE RED MEN.

Footprints of the Indians in the Lackawanna Valley—Dr. Hollister's Cabinet of Twenty Thousand Specimens.

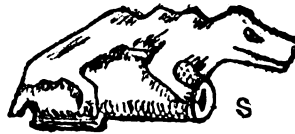
[Scranton Truth.]

Dr. Hollister's cabinet of Indian relics contains 20,000 specimens, most of which were picked up along the Lackawanna Valley. The owner's intimate knowledge of Indian language and customs invests this rare collection with an added interest, and makes it an excellent history of the Red race who a little more than a century ago held complete possession of this place, now the great centre of the anthracite industry—covered with beauty on its face, and lined with rich treasures in its bosom. The writer spent several hours recently in the doctor's cabinet-room with great pleasure and profit. The Doctor treasures his relics as a miser would his gold. The collection numbers pots of stone and burned clay of various capacities; pestles of large proportions and delicate finish; agricultural implements of stone, and of every possible variety for cultivating tobacco, corn, etc.; war implements of a formidable character, comprising spear points ten inches in length, and still as keen as a knife; stone death mauls for killing captives, such as that used by the "bloody Queen Esther" at the massacre; amulets, stone rings and beads and charms worn on the person to insure immunity from danger and disease, besides every kind of implement of silx or stone, such as was fashioned and used in this region a little more than a hundred years ago when the Delaware and Monsey tribes, who were tributary to the famous Six Nations, held sway here.

Among the quaint and curious articles that attract attention is a highly elaborate stone pipe, representing the Indian idea of the universe. The bowl represents the world, supported on one side by a bear, on the other by a wolf, while a crude figure of an Indian on each of the opposite sides supposed to be standing on a log, holds up the world like a second Atlas. The following is a correct sketch of this rude piece of Indian art:



This specimen was picked up at Campbell's Ledge. Prior to the great ice floods of 1875, Indian relics were found frequently along the banks of the Susquehanna at that point, but of late such discoveries are very rare. Another odd specimen of Indian art is the turtle, or alligator calumet or *Pipe of Peace*. This is made of sharp-stone and exhibits one of the first impulses of the savage mind toward artistic representation. The following sketch will give an idea of this droll conceit:



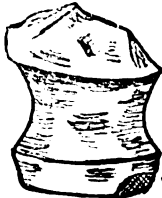
The pipe was formerly in the possession of the Nanticookes, and did duty at many a council fire, in quieting the fierce passions of the sanguinary savages, who made use of such a mode of establishing peace. It was picked up a short distance from the village of Nanticoke, near the Susquehanna River, and several miles from the scene of the Wyoming massacre.

The most ornate of the Indian amulets yet discovered in this vicinity, is the representation in stone of a bird, which was ploughed up in 1868 by Hiram Owens, in a field located in the Lackawanna Valley, four miles from Scranton. It was a charm of rare worth among the savages, and defeat could never come to the warrior who wore it.

A formidable stone hatchet, such as was frequently used in the great massacre, is represented by the accompanying sketch. The weapon was picked up near Capouse Mound, a memorable spot in the Lackawanna Valley, where half a dozen of those who



were fleeing from the terrors of Wyoming were overtaken and mercilessly butchered. One of the most wonderful things connected with these stone weapons is their remarkable polish, and the keenness of edge by which they are characterized. This is shown



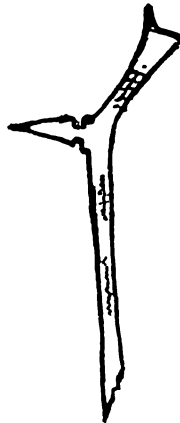
in a high degree in a stone tomahawk, or battle-axe, of the very earliest make, such as was used by the Indians when the whites first made their appearance in this region. A specimen of this deadly weapon was discovered on a farm near

Scranton, 20 years ago, by Mr. Henry Griffin. The above is a representation of it. Around the hollow portion of the stone a withe was placed to fix it to the handle, and, wielded by a powerful arm, and in the hands of a savage who regarded mercy as a disgrace, one can easily see what a cruel means it would be of putting to death a vanquished foe.

In strong contrast with the heavy stone tomahawk is that in use at present upon the Rocky Mountains, among clans who have no firearms. The following is a sketch of this light yet effective weapon:

Among the arrow-heads found so frequently along the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys, the Cornelian is the most beautiful and highly-prized. One of these was picked up in 1875 by Mr. Marvin Carter, at Capouse.

The old Indian apple tree stood in the midst of the wigwam village and close by was the mound from which a number of relics have been exhumed, and where, it is supposed the bodies of several warriors were laid at rest, after their spirits had passed to the happy hunting-ground.



Near this spot was also found a serrated, or saw-flint arrow-head, of which the following is a representation. It is so constructed that it could neither be introduced nor withdrawn without lacerating and doing great injury to the parts, and was considered one of the most destructive of Indian missiles.

One of the most deadly of arrow heads, however, was an oval flint, used for war purposes and so constructed that the poisoned point remained in the victim, while the remainder of the missile was easily extracted.



These weapons of war, pipes of peace and amulets have a language more eloquent than written history. They bring us face to face with a condition of things which prevailed here a little

more than a hundred years ago, and as we contrast them with the implements and the civilization of the present day in the Lackawanna Valley, they naturally give rise to the question what will it be a hundred years hence when we shall all have passed away from the scene of action.

#### An Old Local Poem.

We append a portion of a poem bearing the signature of a visitor from Lancaster, taken from an old scrap book containing clippings from Wilkes-Barre papers of half a century ago:

#### ADIEU TO WYOMING.

Sweet valley! famed for noble deeds,

In chronicle and song

I cannot leave the pleasant fields,

Where I have tarried long,

Without a sigh of bitter pain,

That I no more may see

The friendly faces I have known—

Sweet Wyoming! in thee.

Thy hills, thy vales are beautiful

As earthly scenes can be;

Yet beauty was a fatal gift,

Sweet Wyoming! to thee:

Two nations saw thy winning smile,

And wooed thee for a bride:

And for the prize of that fair form,

Their stoutest champions died.

And Gortrude! brightest, sweetest child

That fancy ever drew—

I cannot leave these peaceful scenes

Without a sigh for you.

Thy gentle spirit seems to float

O'er every mist-clad hill;

The music of the voice to breathe,

From every bounding rill.

Home of the brave and beautiful!

While memory shall be,

The children of this land shall go

On pilgrimage to thee:

Forget not all thy fathers did,

And to thyself be true—

And now I leave thy storied vale—

Sweet Wyoming! adieu.

LANCASTER, Feb. 17, 1841.

—J. S. P.

## A HUNDRED YEARS

Since the Organization of Luzerne's First Court.

[Wilkes-Barre Evening Leader.]

Friday, May 27th, was the centennial or one hundredth anniversary of the organization of the first court ever held in Luzerne county under Pennsylvania jurisdiction.

It was convened in Wilkes Barre, in the building then located where Judge Woodward's house now stands and was presided over by six Justices of the Common Pleas, as they were then called. There was no President Judge until the constitution of 1791 was adopted, when Jacob Rush was appointed.

It must have been a very primitive court for fourteen years afterwards, in 1801, according to a carefully kept diary, still preserved, there were but sixty houses in Wilkes Barre. And seven years later, in 1808, there were but four houses not of wood. Two stone houses were—that now occupied by Dr. Mayer and that Miss Alexander has just torn down, and two brick houses, the Ferry house at the Northampton and Main corner and the Slocum house where Brown's book store now is. There was no traffic except that the farmers brought their produce over a ferry opposite Northampton street, bartered it on the common, from whence it was taken to Easton over the mountain in wagons.

It is not surprising to hear, therefore, that there were but four attorneys admitted at the first court and that for many years afterwards the total list was a very small one. In fact it is a comparatively few years since the bar of Luzerne ceased "traveling the circuit," that is traveling from court to court in Luzerne, Bradford, Tioga, Wayne and other counties and practicing in each, the trips usually consuming from five weeks to two months. Stuart Pearce in his "Annals" says that in 1784 the whole number of buildings in Wilkes-Barre was but 26, of which 23 were burned by the Pennamites.

The names of the justices who held the first court in Zebulon Butler's house were Wm. Hooker Smith, Benjamin Carpenter, James Nesbitt, Timothy Pickering, Obadiah Gore, Nathan Kingsley and Matthias Hollenback. Lord Butler was Sheriff and Timothy Pickering held about all the other offices except that of Court Crier, which belonged to Jos. Sprague. Four Attorneys were sworn in: Ebenezer Bowman, Putnam Catlin, Roswell Welles and William Nichols.

The President Judges who have respectively presided over the court were and are:

Jacob Rush, December, 1791.

Thomas Cooper, August, 1806.

Seth Chapman, August, 1811.

John Bannister Gibson, July, 1813.

Thomas Burnside, 1817.

\*David Scott, 1818.

†William Jessup, 1838.

John N. Conyngham, 1839. Resigned in 1870, serving 31 years.

Garrick M. Harding, 12th of July, 1870, his 40th birthday. Resigned 1879.

Charles E. Rice, 1879.

There have been four Additional Law Judges, E. L. Dana, Henry M. Hoyt, John Handley and Stanley Woodward.

\*Judge Scott held the President Judgeship for over 20 years.

†Judge Jessup was twice commissioned as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, in 1838 by Governor Ritner, and in 1848 by Governor Johnson. For a part of the time, in the change of the districts, this county came within his circuit. By a compromise arrangement between Judges Jessup and Conyngham and with the consent of the Bars of both, the Susquehanna and Luzerne districts were so adjusted as to accommodate the two Judges, putting Luzerne in Judge Conyngham's district and Susquehanna in Judge Jessup's.

There have been many distinguished men in the Luzerne bar. She has given two Chief Justices in the persons of John Bannister Gibson, and George W. Woodward, and Warren J. Woodward also served upon the Supreme bench. All three were eminent men, Judge Gibson in many respects the most eminent who ever sat in that tribunal. The words of his decisions are still quoted, just as he uttered them, as irrefutable definitions of the fundamental law.

Garrick Mallory became a Judge. George Griffin was elected constable of Wilkes-Barre as a joke, became angry, went to New York, became a friend and associate of Aaron Burr, and attained high distinction. Ovid F. Johnson and Henry W. Palmer became Attorneys General. Henry M. Hoyt became Governor. Henry M. Fuller was a remarkable man.

He served in the Legislature and twice in Congress, was Whig candidate for Canal Commissioner of the state and mentioned for Vice President in 1860, though he was but forty when he died.

H. B. Wright served as speaker of the State House of Representatives, was President of the Polk Convention and several times in Congress.

Charles Denison, Chester Butler, L. D. Shoemaker, E. S. Osborne and others have also sat in Congress.

John Handley, Alfred Hand and R. W. Archbald are judges in Lackawanna. Luther Kidder also went to the bench in another district.

In the old days George Denison was a wonderful pleader. Lyman Hakes, brother of the doctor, is believed to have been the

strongest criminal lawyer the Bar ever had. Hal Wright was also a great lawyer. One of the most remarkable of the whole number was James McClintock, a poetic, sympathetic orator. His story is a very affecting one. He was assigned by Judge Scott to defend a little girl who had stolen a pair of shoes from in front of a store. The loser of the shoes had got them back, but insisted on prosecuting the child. McClintock defended her in a speech that was the talk of all this part of the state for long afterwards. Later he was nominated for Congress, principally because of this speech. There were three candidates. Two weeks afterwards, so slow were the methods of transmitting the news at that day, it was not known who was elected. In the meantime McClintock had married. Chester Butler gave a grand party in honor of McClintock and his bride. That night news came that convinced him he was elected. He was congratulated universally, on that, and on his marriage. Subsequently it transpired that he was defeated. Within a year his wife died in giving birth to her first child. The child died also, and McClintock became insane. He was sent to an asylum and died there 30 years afterwards, having been an imbecile all that time. A sad conclusion to a brilliant beginning.

Many chapters of great interest would be inspired by knowledge of the men who have plead at this bar. We have room only for these rambling, hasty reminiscences.

The bar now is as strong as any in the state. It has about 150 members. Andrew T. McClintock is the oldest in years and in practice. The younger are so numerous that nobody knows them all. The last to be admitted is Marlin Bingham Stevens, whose date is May 16, 1887, and who has an office in Ashley.

#### Relics of Sullivan's March.

WILKES-BARRE, May 23, 1887.—EDITOR RECORD: In the summer of 1841 or 1842 I saw two cannon balls unearthed on the Kingston flats, which at the time of their discovery were supposed to have been thrown there by one of Gen. Sullivan's guns the year after the massacre of Wyoming. They weighed three or four pounds each.

One of them I found while hoeing with my father and brother Charles on land now owned by John Gates. This was given to A. C. Church, whose son William, at present residing in Kingston, thinks it went into Barnum's first New York museum, which was destroyed by fire.

The other ball was found by Lyman Little, who with myself and some other boys were amusing ourselves after bathing by digging in the recently cut perpendicular bank of the river opposite the centre of Johnson's island.

LYMAN BELDING.

#### The Meteoric Shower of 1833.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., May 26th, 1887.—EDITOR RECORD: In a recent number of your valuable RECORD, I read a short notice of that wonderful meteoric shower of 1833, which I remember as vividly as any event of my life, as I was at my grandfather's in Wyoming Valley on that memorable night. At about 4 o'clock in the morning he sent my mother (who then made it her home there) to our sleeping apartment to awaken us, and she, with great solemnity, told us to come down stairs to prayer as the world was coming to an end; that the scriptures were being fulfilled, the stars were indeed falling from heaven etc., etc. It was really a most solemn display and was awfully grand. The supposed stars appeared to take start from the center of the zenith or great dome, and fall as quietly to the earth, as a shower of large flakes of snow, but lost to view as they came near the surface. I distinctly remember watching the phenomena of the "falling stars," till the rising sun hid them from sight, and eagerly watched for their appearance the next night, but the shower was over, and the show was out.

#### S. PETTESONE.

The RECORD's request for reminiscences has elicited some very interesting data. The latest is a letter written by Capt. James P. Dennis, who was an eye witness, to his father. The former was at this time in Philadelphia, employed on the construction of the first railroad bridge across the Schuylkill. The reference to the meteoric display is as follows:

"I observe by the papers that the splendid phenomenon of shooting stars extended over the region of Wilkes-Barre as well as Philadelphia. But I am afraid that unless 'Old Michael' rang the bell many of your sluggish citizens did not enjoy the sight. I was up, as usual nowadays, about an hour before daybreak, and upon going out to wash myself I first saw them, and it seemed to me as if all the stars in the firmament had taken it in their heads that they had been long enough stationary, and that they all with one accord were changing places. They seemed to shoot to and fro from every point of the heavens. Some of our men declared the moon was being cut to pieces and that the chips were flying from her. Some thought that there would be no more stars, that they were all falling. Others that the world was coming to an end and were prodigiously frightened. As for myself I stood and looked and wondered and admired the sight until the great luminary of day made his appearance and outshone the rest."

### The Pioneer Church of Lackawanna.

What is claimed by Rev. Dr. David Spencer, of Scranton, to be the earliest religious movement in the present bounds of Lackawanna County, was thus given in the *Scranton Republican* of January 25:

In 1794 Rev. William Bishop, a Baptist minister, settled here. He purchased nearly four hundred acres of land whereon Scranton is now situated. This purchase is on the records of Luzerne County. Rev. William Bishop was the first resident minister of any denomination in the Lackawanna Valley. His field of ministerial labor extended from Wilkes-Barre to Blakely. In all this region there was then one Baptist Church, at Pittston, organized in 1776. Of this he was the pastor. As many of the members of this church lived in what was then Providence Township, in 1802, it was known as the "Pittston and Providence Church." This was for the sake of organic convenience. In 1806 merged into the Abington church constituted in 1802. Up to this merging Rev. William Bishop had been the pastor, but after it Rev. John Miller had the oversight. Many of the members resided within the bounds now embraced in Scranton. In the fall of 1833 Rev. William K. Mott took up his residence in Hyde Park, and the Baptist Church at Pittston was re-organized. On September 12, 1849, with Rev. W. K. Mott as pastor, the First Baptist Church, now situated on Scranton Street, below South Main Avenue, of which Rev. Owen James is the pastor, was organized. While there was not a continuous organization of the Baptist Church from 1802 to 1849, in what is now the city of Scranton, there was an organization in 1802, and members of it continued to reside in Scranton until the above distinct establishment in 1849. As to whether the Methodist, Presbyterian or Baptist were the first in this city, makes no difference to me, but I give the above as facts of interest in our early history, facts which date back to 1794, when the first Baptist Church of this city was in reality founded, if not distinctly constituted.

His residence, built by himself of hewn logs, stood on the spot occupied by the residence of the late William Merrifield, of Hyde Park, and his farm embraced land on both sides of the Lackawanna River. About fifty acres of this land, according to the records, were donated to him by the "Susquehanna Company" as the "first minister to settle in these parts." The remainder he purchased at a sum which, in contrast with the present value of the same property now, is simply the merest cypher. Just what were the exact or approximate boundaries of this original Bishop tract of land, would be a matter of great interest. I should be glad, if any one knows, or could ascertain them from the records at Wilkes-Barre, to see just what part of the city was embraced by it.

DAVID SPENCER.

Pursuant to the above request of Dr. Spencer, a RECORD reporter made the search with the following result: The records in the early days of Luzerne County's history were made out in such an unscientific manner that it is difficult to find just what one is looking for. No deed whatever by the

Susquehanna Company is recorded as such, but the deed here referred to is recorded under the names of the trustees of the company, and is, somewhat curtailed, as follows:

Constant Searle, Daniel Taylor and James Abbott, appointed by the township of Providence, describe "the lands appropriated by the Susquehanna Company (so-called) to the use and benefit of the first settled minister of the Gospel in the said town, William Bishop, of New York City, New York," Sept. 20, 1795, as lying in the town of Providence, beginning at the line of Preserved Taylor's land by the main road, thence along the road to Jonathan Dolph's, thence south 55 degrees east along Dolph's line to the old road, along the road to Preserved Taylor's line, along that line to the first mentioned bounds, containing about 35 acres of land. Three other tracts are mentioned also, one on the south-east side of the river beginning at a chestnut sapling on the land leased to James Abbott and Rubin Taylor about 10 rods from the bank of the river, running south 81 degrees east 28 rods, then north 35 degrees east about 6 rods to the river, then along the river to Stephen Gardner's land, thence south 55 degrees east 800 rods, to the town line, thence south 35 degrees west, 50 rods, then north 55 degrees west, 800 rods, to the place of beginning. Another lies north and west of the main road beginning at Preserved Taylor's line; another North and west of the Mill Creek, beginning at Jonathan Dolph's and another beginning from Dolph's line and the town line.

The deed is signed and sworn to in the presence of John Phillips, justice of the peace.

### The Smallest Man.

It is believed that Plymouth possesses one of the smallest, if not the smallest, man in the State. His name is Rees Wittler. He is 34 years of age, stands just 36 inches high and weighs 58 pounds. He is a native of Wales, a son of William Wittler, of Merthyr Tydvil. He came to this country in 1876 with Evan Rees, a harper, and lived for some time with the late John Jenkins, who kept the old Wyoming House on South Main Street, this city. Mr. Rees afterwards removed to Danville, Montour County, accompanied by Wittler, and after Mr. Rees's death the little man continued to live for some years with Mrs. Rees. Mrs. Jenkins, widow of the late John Jenkins, visited Danville some months ago and brought back Wittler with her to Plymouth, where she now resides, keeping the Palace restaurant on Main Street.

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

#### Formal Acceptance of Mr. Osterhout's Bequest—All Publications Not Germane to the Society to be Deposited With the Free Library.

A special meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held June 3 to take action on the removal of the society's collection and library to the Osterhout Library Building. There were present, Gen. Dana, I. r. Ingham, L. C. Paine, R. J. Flick, Rev. H. L. Jones, Rev. H. E. Hayden, Rev. W. F. Watkins Jr., J. W. Hollenback, A. T. McClintock, B. M. Espy, H. C. Davis, G. M. Lewis, Thomas Graeme, G. R. Bedford, G. B. Kulp, O. C. Hillard, M. H. Post, S. C. Struthers, W. J. Flick and F. C. Johnson.

The matter of transferring such portions of the library to the Osterhout Library as the society did not need, had been referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Ingham, Rev. Mr. Hayden and Lawyer Lewis, who reported in elaborate detail, at the same time going, as Chairman Dana said, into matters not contemplated by the appointment. The report awakened a warm discussion, in which it developed that, apart from the report, there was no definite understanding between the Osterhout trustees and the Historical Society and that in each waiting for the other to make advances, there had been absolutely no communication between the two. This was a matter of somewhat remarkable surprise, considering that the two are so made up largely of the same people.

There had as yet been no formal acceptance of the bequest of the late Mr. Osterhout, providing quarters for the society and in accordance with the committee's report, such formal acceptance was made.

The report recommended that in turning over the government publications, the society reserve the power, in the event of a possible separation of the two bodies, to withdraw such deposited books.

Trustee Paine objected to subjecting the Osterhout Library to the risk of having the government publications withdrawn in the event of a separation.

Historiographer Kulp thought the two libraries should be entirely distinct.

G. R. Bedford considered the public documents, as at present kept, as little better than old lumber. The Osterhout Library would have them made accessible by indexing and he was in favor of turning them over to the that body. He thought further that the removal should take place at once in order to save rent.

Mr. Hayden explained that the Historical Society was not the owner of the government publications, but was simply a deposi-

tory, and the government has the power of recalling them at pleasure. As to the delay in removing the cabinet, Mr. Hayden said the Osterhout Library would be cramped for room, and the second story of the annex would not hold half of the cabinet.

Mr. Kulp wanted to have a new building erected at once.

Mr. Hollenback favored making a temporary addition to the church building in order to accommodate the Historical Society, there being 60 feet of land in the rear.

Rev. Mr. Jones, an Osterhout trustee, said the trustees would probably entertain a proposition to build an addition.

Prof. Davis recommended further study of the subject in order to ascertain what accommodations the Osterhout Library can offer the Historical Society for its cabinet and library.

Mr. Bedford recommended a temporary one-story addition of corrugated iron for the cabinet collection.

Judge Dana, who is an Osterhout trustee, thought the discussion was enlarging beyond the proper limit and that the matter in hand was to arrange simply for the temporary accommodation of the Historical Society. The Osterhout trustees know nothing of what the Historical Society wants. No such information had been furnished.

The first resolution, formally accepting the bequest of Mr. Osterhout, was adopted.

The second resolution, specifying that such portions of the library as did not pertain to American history and the scientific branches covered by this society, be turned over to the Osterhout library, was met with a proposition to postpone further action until the Building Committee report.

Gen. Dana said there was a lack of definite information as to what the society wanted. The Building Committee had no information to go by.

It then developed that there had as yet been no conference whatever of the Cabinet Committee with the Osterhout trustees.

Mr. Hayden suggested that they had had no word from the Osterhout trustees.

Trustee Jones thought that the matter of the custody of the government documents and the removal of the books should be decided at once.

Trustee Paine believed the society should waive all claim upon the public documents.

Mr. Kulp feared the Osterhout Library was likely to be only an aggregate of government publications. He believed the situation was becoming magnificently mixed.

Mr. Lewis stated that a minority of the committee favored the transfer of the entire library to the Osterhout Library.

The portion of the report specifying that such portion of the library not embracing



American history, genealogy and the scientific branches coming within the especial scope of the Historical Society, be deposited with the Osterhout Library, to be used for reference purposes, was, after much amending, finally carried. The balance of the report was laid on the table.

Mr. Hollenback moved that the matter of space desired by the society, be laid by the Cabinet Committee before the Osterhout trustees at the earliest possible date, and to report to the society at a special meeting to be called by the chair.

“Aqua” in Indian Names.

EDITOR RECORD: I have long noticed the peculiarity of the following names, in each of which the word “aqua” or its phonetic equivalent, appears. I write this with the hope that some of your readers will offer an explanation of the coincidence, if such it may be called, as it appears in the following names:

Aquashicola  
 Catasaqua  
 Tamaqua  
 Hokendaqua  
 Quakake  
 Chillisquaque  
 Aquetong  
 Kishicoquillas  
 Conoquennessing

It is said that the president of a temperance society once gave the following explanation of the origin of Chillisquaque: He stated that the creek was so named in honor of a cold water society which the Indians had formed on its banks. The writer begs to say that any statement of a president of a temperance society, dairyman, or any drug store label will not be accepted in explanation of this phenomena. All others will be thankfully received.

C. F. HILL.

Hazleton, May 12.

Recalling a Church Building Accident.

[Letter to the Editor.]

By the unfortunate accident at the new Presbyterian Church, we are reminded of the catastrophe that befell the first church erected by that denomination in 1830 upon the site of the present church. Cyrus Gildersleeve had been the pastor of the Congregationalists who worshipped in the old church on the Public Square. The parsonage was in the building now occupied by Agib Ricketts on Northampton Street. Nicholas Murray, a young Irishman, succeeded Mr. Gildersleeve, and under his administration the form of government was changed to Presbyterian, and a frame church was built of the same style as the late church on the Kingston road on the Butler property, now taken down, called Corinthian. John Darken, of

Norwich, England, was the architect. They had raised the frame work of the building, and were hoisting the timbers for the roof when the whole structure collapsed and timbers, boards, plank and some half dozen carpenters went down together into the cellar. The men were badly hurt though none of them were killed. The late Ira Marcy was, I think, one of the injured.

This accident caused the trustees to lose faith in Mr. Darken, and was a great loss to him. He became so discouraged and disheartened that he shortly after left and returned to England, and the church was erected by other contractors. In 1833 Rev. Nicholas Murray was called to Elizabeth, N. J., and Rev. John Dorrance was called to the pastorate and during his ministry the present church was erected in 1850 and '51.

“SCRIBE.”

Paper a Hundred Years Old.

The committee having in special charge the arrangements for the centennial celebration of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, June 12-16, have issued an invitation and program which has the charm of antiquity and novelty. The paper on which it is printed is a fine hand-made linen fabric, with rough edges of the real kind, and no modern conceit or imitation. A few hundred sheets of this paper was found in one of the lofts of the old paper mill of J. M. Willcox & Co., near Philadelphia, dismantled some time ago. It had lain there undiscovered during the half century of disuse into which mill and machinery had fallen; these particular sheets upon which the Franklin and Marshall invitations are printed were made during the Revolution to be used for the Continental currency of that period.

Benjamin Franklin, one of the most far-sighted statesmen and sagacious publicists of the formative period of our institutions, journeyed from Philadelphia to Lancaster, when far advanced in years, to lay the foundation stone of Franklin College. He was one of its most liberal patrons; and this year, when the college, with imposing literary and musical exercises, will celebrate its centennial, Franklin will have fit eulogist in Dr. Wm. Pepper, provost of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, of which also Franklin was founder. Marshall College, founded in 1837 at Mercersburg, was joined with Franklin in 1853; and so the united college has both a centennial and semi-centennial to celebrate. Judge Hughes, of the United States District Court, Virginia, will pronounce the eulogy on Chief Justice Marshall. He is well known as a jurist, orator and disputant, and there is peculiar fitness in the selection of a Virginian for this task.

#### Remembering Wyoming's Slain.

A meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association was held at the office of the secretary, Alderman Wesley Johnson, on Saturday morning, for the purpose of making arrangements for the annual reunion at the monument on July 3. President Charles Dorrance called the meeting to order. The minutes of last year's meeting were read and approved. On motion of Gen. Dana, seconded by Mr. Johnson, it was Resolved, That we assemble at the monument at 10 o'clock am. July 3, and that after the customary exercises we proceed to the Wyoming Hotel for the usual commemorative dinner, in accordance with a standing resolution of the association.

On motion of Mr. Parsons, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Payne Pettebone and John M. Stark, Esqs., were named as a committee to arrange the details of the service and also to prepare the grounds and decorate the monument.

On motion of Dr. Hakes, seconded by Mr. Parsons, it was resolved that Rev. A. H. Tuttle be invited to deliver a brief address at the monument.

Gen. Dana and Dr. Hakes were appointed a committee to invite speakers. On motion of Gen. Dana, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, it was

Resolved, That in the death since our last meeting, of Rev. Abel Barker, this association has lost the aid of an earnest, able and cherished associate:

That his presence at every meeting since its first organization, and his warm sympathy in its sacred purposes, have largely contributed to the interest of our meetings, and his absence on this, and our future assemblages, we do, and shall ever, deeply deplore.

Col. Dorrance said in view of the fact that so many of our late co-workers have passed from earth and it may be that others will be called to their final account before we again assemble at our annual meeting, he thought it appropriate and fitting for us to recur to the remarks of our late worthy associate, made upon the occasion of adopting the resolution providing for our annual pilgrimage to the monument grounds. He would therefore ask the secretary to read from the memorial volume the remarks of Mr. Barker made as there reported. Mr. Johnson accordingly read from the book as follows:

Mr. Barker said "It is expected that the inhabitants throughout the valley will display their flag at half-staff in honor of the first anniversary meeting, in this, the beginning of the second century after the battle and massacre, and at each succeeding anniversary thereafter; and it is hoped the custom may be kept up by succeeding genera-

tions until the morning of the 200th year may again call the people to meet at this sacred fane as they did in 1878, to do homage to the noble dead of Wyoming's bloody day. The annual meeting of the survivors of the association, he could not regard but with feelings of mournful anticipation. We are nearly all of us men bordering on the middle age of life, some perhaps having passed the allotted three score years and ten vouchsafed by God unto his creatures. It must inevitably come in the near future of things, and that at no distant day, that some, in fact all of us will be called away to render an account of our stewardships here on earth, and it is with feelings of sadness with which I look forward to the time when the last man, old, tottering and infirm, shall assemble himself in the shadow of the monument, on some hot July morning a few years hence, to partake of his lonely meal and pay a final tribute to the memory of his departed associates."

Dr. Hakes, treasurer of the association, reported that there is an unexpended balance in the treasury of \$1.50, which amount is deposited in the Wyoming National Bank for safe keeping. Col. Dorrance was asked whether he regarded the Wyoming as a safe depository for the funds of the association. He said he thought it was, and the action of the treasurer was approved by the meeting. After some more pleasant chat, of by no means a solemn character, the meeting adjourned, to assemble at the monument on July 3, the 3d being Sunday.

#### Died in Colorado.

Thomas Truxton Slocum, died at his home on Slocum Rancho, Platte Canyon, Colorado, May 29th, in the 75th year of his age. He was a descendant of the original Slocums of Slocum Hollow, now Scranton, his father being Benjamin Slocum, brother of Ebener Slocum of the Hollow, and Joseph Slocum of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Slocum inherited from his ancestor a valuable farm at Tunkhannock, upon which a large portion of the town is now built. When Wyoming County was set off from Luzerne in 1842, he donated the site for the new County buildings. He was a man of enterprise and liberal with his means beyond what was prudent in one who desired to retain unimpaired valuable inheritance. After parting with his farm at a sacrifice he emigrated westward and was for many years a citizen of Kansas; was elected the first Free Soil mayor of Leavenworth and took a prominent part in the anti-slavery agitation of the Territory previous to its admission as a State. He married his wife in Wilkes-Barre, Miss Ann Dennis, a sister of Capt. James P. Dennis, yet living at their mountain home.

#### The Late Mr. Lowenberg.

The funeral of the late David Lowenberg, of Bloomsburg, took place June 10. The remains were conveyed to Plymouth on the D. L. & W. RR., and from that place to South Wilkes-Barre by the D. & H. Co. The funeral train consisted of two special cars, having on board the relatives and friends of deceased and Washington Lodge 265, A. Y. M., of Bloomsburg. Upon the arrival of the train at South Wilkes-Barre the body was transferred to the hearse in waiting, and then conveyed to the Jewish Cemetery in Hanover Township. A large number of Wilkes-Barreans, including many Masons and Odd Fellows, followed the remains to the grave. Rev. Dr. Rundbaken conducted the religious services at the home in Bloomsburg, and at the grave the Masonic ritual was observed. From 10 to 12 o'clock all places of business in Bloomsburg were closed, as a mark of respect to the man who did so much for the community at large without respect to creed or nationality.

Mr. Lowenberg was a relative of Mrs. Simon Long and Joseph Coons. The *Bloomsburg Republican* has the following:

The deceased was one of the leading business men and most public spirited citizens of the community. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1823, his parents being farmers. At an early age he was apprenticed to the trade of cloth making and at the conclusion of his three years' term he continued his avocation as a journeyman for nine years. In 1848 he emigrated to this country, landing at New York, and after remaining there a short time came to Wilkes-Barre and thence to Bloomsburg in 1860 where he opened a tailoring establishment on the site now occupied by his large wholesale and retail clothing store. Besides giving close attention to business, he found sufficient time to devote to politics and the improvement of the town. In the Buchanan campaign he was chosen chairman of the Democratic County Committee and has frequently since that time served in the same capacity. In 1864 he was a delegate from this district to the Democratic National Convention, and has represented the district at every succeeding convention, except in 1872, when he was a presidential elector. He served as county treasurer in 1870 and 1871. For four successive terms he was chosen president of town council. During the reorganization of the North & West Branch RR. in 1881, he was a member of the board of directors, and at the time of his death, he was president of the board of trade, treasurer of the Bloomsburg & Sullivan RR. Co., a member of the board of directors of the N. Y. S. & W. RR., Oak Grove Park and one of the trustees of the Normal School. He was also a member

of Washington Lodge of Freemasons, having been initiated in 1853. He leaves to survive him a wife, four sons and three daughters. Of Mr. Lowenberg one has said: "He is of Hebrew descent and religion, but his charity, however, knows no narrow limits of creed or bigotry. No man ever ranked higher in citizenship in this corporate town of Bloomsburg than he. Ever industrious in business and yet so conducting his work as to add to the common stock of knowledge and understanding. Courteous and affable, kind and condescending, he was always considerate of the feelings and wishes of those around him, and extremely jealous in his representative capacity of the rights and interests of all those who imposed confidence in him."

#### Death of A. G. Hull.

Areli G. Hull, whose illness was mentioned in the RECORD a few days ago, died at his home, 142 North Franklin Street, on May 26. Mr. Hull was born at Trenton, N. J., Feb. 23, 1826, but soon removed with his parents to Belvidere, N. J., where he learned the tanning trade with his uncle, Jas. R. Hull. After completing his apprenticeship he removed to Bushkill, Pa., where he conducted a successful business for several years, but meeting with financial reverses through unfortunate real estate ventures, he was induced to try a new field and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1876, where he started in the leather and findings business on North Main Street, which he conducted with success to the day of his death. He was a man of strict probity and business integrity and leaves many sympathizing friends to mourn his loss. He was married in 1851 to Miss Emily Tuttle of Hamburg, N. J. A widow and two daughters are all that are left of the family. One daughter, Sarah E., is the wife of H. A. Jacoby, his partner in the business; the other daughter, Hannah, is unmarried, living at home. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church while yet a mere youth and has continued a faithful and active member since, being an elder of Memorial Church at the time of his death and at one time a trustee. The funeral was held at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, services at Memorial Church, interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Death of "Aunty" Williams.

The many readers of the RECORD, especially the older ones, will be sorry to learn of the death, on June 10, of Mrs. Annetta Williams, familiarly known as "Aunty" Williams, the old-time hostess of the Bear Creek Hotel, and latterly of the Spring and Prospect Houses. Mrs. Williams came of the ancient Wilkes-Barre stock, her maiden

name being Rogers, her father the much respected in his day Doctor John Rogers, who practiced extensively through the valley sixty years and more ago. Her mother was the sister of 'Squire Sively, sheriff and otherwise prominent in county affairs and the owner of the broad acres now handsomely kept by his granddaughter, Mrs. Judge Pfouts, on the Hanover flats. In 1836, Annetta and her husband, Valentine Wagner, opened the Bear Creek Hotel, on the line of the old stage route from Wilkes-Barre to Easton. This was made the change station of the stage teams, and the early breakfast place for travelers leaving Wilkes-Barre before daylight. In the summer of that year Mr. Wagner was run away with and killed near the old gate house beyond Stoddartville, and the widow Wagner carried on the establishment for several years on her own resources.

Along in the forties Stiles Williams, a handsome young lumberman from New Jersey, associated with Abram Pierson, started the lumber mills at Bear Creek and in due time induced the widow to doff her weeds. But the hotel was still maintained till the advent of railroads out off the stage routes and wiped out the Turnpike Company.

In 1859 Mr. Williams sold the Bear Creek property to the late Peter Pursel and with Mrs. Williams moved to the Spring House on the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, where they maintained a summer hotel till his death in 1875.

Mrs. Williams never had any children and leaves no relation nearer than Mrs. Judge Pfouts. She was 78 years old. Death resulted from paralysis.

#### A House a Century Old.

Dr. C. F. Ingham is about to remove another old landmark and to erect in its stead a block of two fine residences to face Union, at the corner of Union and River Streets. The exact date of the building of the present venerable structure is not known, but it must have been at least a hundred years ago. It was built by Rev. Jacob Johnson, first settled minister of the Congregational Church here, before it became Presbyterian in its form of government, and was occupied by his family up to the time of his death, which occurred in March 1797, and for years afterwards was the home of his son, J. P. Johnson, who in about 1826 sold it to Arnold Colt and removed to the mill property at Laurel Run, where he died in 1830. Dr. Ingham has occupied the place for thirty years or more, but the old must make room for the new in the onward march of improvement, and this familiar old home of one of the forefathers of the

hamlet as it was a century ago, and of other generations now passed away, or passing, is doomed to follow. We understand that before demolishing the old building he will have a photograph taken of it as it is in order to preserve a memento of the past for future reference. Architect Kipp pronounces the old house a model of the architecture of its day.

#### Ely Post's Dead.

Adj. R. V. Levers, of Ely Post, G. A. R. has prepared a list of the dead members of the post, with their companies and regiments. The following list, it is believed, is nearly complete, but there may be some who died away from home or who were buried elsewhere whose names have not been learned. If any have been thus overlooked their friends are requested to send their names, with their companies and regiments to R. V. Levers. The list now prepared is as follows:

Albert, Sidney, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Brisbane, Wm., 49th Pa. Vols.  
 Brecht, Godfried, 112th Pa. Vols.  
 Bogert, Joseph K., 28th Pa. Vols. and U. S. Sig. Corps.  
 Clapsaddle, H. E., 9th Cal. Cav.  
 Cruse, Thomas, 58th Pa. Vols.  
 Dunlap, Robert, 30th Pa. Vols.  
 Dane, Wm. C., 2d Mass. Vols.  
 Davis, Thos. F., 17th Pa. Cav.  
 Eldridge, James, 104th Pa. Vols.  
 Fell, John P., 7th Pa. Res.  
 Finch, Ed. W., 8th and 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Gava, Charles, 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Harkness, T. O., 8th and 81st Pa. Vols.  
 Hibler, S. H., 6th Pa. Cav.  
 Herbert, Wm. K., 77th Pa. Vols.  
 Hunt, Thos. P., 7th Pa. Res. and 8th and 112th Pa. Vols.  
 Hartland, John, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Hay, Peter, 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Hagenbuch, Abram, 210th Pa. Vols.  
 Higgs, James, 61st Pa. Vols.  
 Killian, John, 9th Pa. Cav.  
 Knoll, Michael, 18th Pa. Vols.  
 Kentner, Joseph, 151st Pa. Vols.  
 Keller, Henry, 58th N. Y. Vols.  
 Landmesser, N. F., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Lewis, Josiah L., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Loch, B. F. 4th N. Y. H. A.  
 Munday, John, 47th Pa. Vols.  
 McNalis, William, 90th Pa. Vols.  
 Moses, William, 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Ossent, Eugene, 41st N. Y. Vols.  
 Plotz, Charles C., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Pryor, Theodore, 2d Pa. Art.  
 Root, Chauncey L., U. S. Vet. Res.  
 Ruf, Andrew, 5th N. Y. Vols.  
 Stout, Charles B., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Speece, L. B., 7th Vet. Res.  
 Tyler, Joseph P., 187th Pa. Vols.

**Doctor Robinson's Grave.**

One hundred years ago there was but a single burying place from the head of the Lackawanna to its mouth at Pittston. This was known as Tripp's graveyard, on the edge of Capouse, near the Mt. Pleasant Colliery. There were no public grounds, all were private. In Slocum Hollow the Slocum place was the second, while on the Hyde Park hillside was the third burial ground in the valley. In Dunmore the De Puy was next started. The Griffin, the Hermans, the McDaniels, the Lutz and the Mott grounds were private places for the dead, with no head-stones of marble, and few had common stones reared by tender hands.

Dr. Silas B. Robinson came into the valley in 1823. He was the second physician here. He settled in Providence, where he died in 1860. He was buried in the Tripp place. On the sunny side of the hill under the sighing of a small pine tree, he was buried by the Masons, of which he was a prominent member. His death was sudden. In the evening he visited a patient in the village, returning home he shelled a bushel of corn for his chickens, took a dose of medicine for a cold, went to bed and died within an hour. He was a good man. He never drank or smoked. He always visited his patients on foot, carried his own medicine, and never wrote a prescription in his life. Valerian, soda and herbs made up his *materia medica*, and his patients generally recovered. He belonged to no church, but he knew the Bible by heart and yet he was very profane. His profanity, however, like some men's prayers, never meant any harm. He never had a law suit in his life, and yet this excellent man has no monument or stone to mark the spot where he was laid. It is a shame that this is so. Hiram Lodge of Masons appointed a committee to erect a monument, but as his son Dr. Giles Robinson promised to do it, it was abandoned. Mr. Storrs, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R.R., promised to remove the remains to Dunmore but thus far nothing has been done. His estate is estimated at \$50,000, and it is a shame that so good a man should be covered up by culm, forgotten and unknown.

By the way, his son, Dr. Giles R., died recently and few knew the cause of his death. In the lower portion of Providence, opposite the blacksmith shop of Mr. Bright, stands a small building where W. W. Winton and the late W. W. Ketcham, D. R. Randall and others once kept school half a century ago. In the winter of 1839 Loren Dewy, an Abingtonian, kept school here and Giles, a lad of fourteen, went to him. Being a mischievous boy, the master jerked him off his seat one day with such violence as to fracture his hip. He never recovered from the

fall. It led to *necrosis*, or death of the bone, and it discharged matter up till the day of his death.—*Dr. H. Hollister in Scranton Truth.*

**"Stella of Lackawanna's" Poem.**

There are hundreds of persons in the Wyoming Valley who have read during the passing years the poems appearing in the newspaper press from the pen of Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Watres, better known by her non de plume of "Stella of Lackawanna." Mrs. Watres was a sister of Dr. H. Hollister, of Providence, the celebrated physician antiquary. Senator L. A. Watres is a son and it is through his efforts that his mother's writings now come to the public in book form. Mrs. Watres was a noble woman, whose life was crowded with loving deeds, and a friend has truly and poetically described her as—

"Loving the loveless and lonely,  
Binding the bruises of scorn."

The book is now being canvassed for in Wilkes-Barre and we feel sure that our readers who purchase it, as well as those who do not, will be interested in the following review of its contents by Will S. Monroe, who has been writing a series of articles in the *Scranton Argus* descriptive of the poets of Wyoming Valley and contiguous territory:

Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Watres, the sense of whose loss is so fresh upon us, was by nature singularly sweet and musical and her poems sing of themselves. She sang as the birds—in pure, serene and hymn-like roundelays—and her songs are as sincere and genuine as those of the sylvan minstrels, possessing all the hilarity of the bobolink, the faith of the song-sparrow, the love of the blue-bird, and the spiritual serenity of the hermit-thrush. Finished and original in style, delicate in sentiment, fertile in imagination, and musical in expression, Mrs. Watres was a poet of high order, and her verses rank with the very best yet produced by Wyoming Valley singers. *Cobwebs*, a volume containing one hundred and twenty-five short poems, was recently published by D. Lothrop & Co., of Boston, and its merits cannot but impress the most careless reader. "Barefoot" illustrates how well she succeeded in investing common ideas with new charms; and in "Caged" her rich imagination arises to the sphere of the true ideal. Deep pathos and refined humor are always nicely wedded. At every shoaling in the serious stream of "The Quarrel," "Through the Keyhole," and "Ripe Cherries," a vigilant sense of humor ripples. "Woodland Friends" and "My Cottage Home" exhale the fresh breath of a May orchard; and "Love's Loss" and "Lu-

line" contain all the sweetness and melody, and much of the genuine touch of true poetry. Her melody is so perfect, that were not these pleasant fancies as philosophical as they are musical, I should be inclined to charge their author with singing simply for the music's sake, but combined with all this melody is a depth of rare thought and fine poetical imagery. "Bret Harte" and "Snow Birds" are genial poems, and the former is constructed with remarkable ingenuity. In "Twice waiting," "Rae," and "Faces on the Street," she manifests a thorough understanding of the language of natural emotions and a profound knowledge of the reserves and refinement of poetic art. Few writers have better succeeded in blending exquisite melody with serene, satisfying and uplifting sentiment, or given us a finer adjustment of word to thought; and with an ever changing variety of measure, she not infrequently interests the reader quite as much in the treatment of a subject as in the subject itself. To those who know the worth of her poetry it is a matter of regret that she is not more generally read; but until the people of culture in this rich valley come to realize the genuine work which in obscurity and discouragement the few are doing for its honor, neither the local writers nor their friends need feel that popular neglect signifies merited condemnation.

#### Chandler Genealogy.

Prof. Swithin Chandler Shortlidge gave a dinner at Media, recently, to representatives of the descendants of George and Jane Chandler, who came from England 200 years ago and settled on the Brandywine. An association was formed to arrange for the celebration of the bi-centennial of their arrival, with the following officers: President, Dr. Swithin Chandler, of Delaware; Vice Present, Dr. Ellwood Harvey, of Chester; Recording Secretary, J. Shortlidge; Corresponding Secretaries, Prof. S. C. Shortlidge and Alfred N. Chandler; Treasurer, Dr. Joseph H. Chandler, of Delaware. The celebration will be held at the original Chandler homestead, which is on the Brandywine Creek, partly in Delaware and partly in Pennsylvania. A genealogy of the family is being prepared by Gilbert Cope, of West Chester.—*North Wales Record.*

Alfred N. Chandler, whose name is mentioned above, held a position a few years ago with the Western Union Telegraph Co., in this city. He is now among the Philadelphia bulls and bears, of Third Street.

#### Errata.

EDITOR RECORD: It is not often that I interfere to attempt corrections in historical articles written by persons who are presumed to know what they are writing about, but there are two articles in the March, 1887, number of the *Historical Record* that I feel I cannot pass by without an attempt to correct what I believe to be errors. One of these articles is on "the late Abi Slocum Butler" and the other on that entitled "A former Wilkes-Barrean dead."

In the first article it is stated that "Lord, the eldest son of Col. Zebulon Butler, was born in 1770." He had held various positions of a public character before 1790 and was then a member of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. He must have been more than 20 years of age at this time, most probably about 30, and hence would have been born as early as 1760. It is further stated that he married Mary, granddaughter of Abel Peirce. She was the daughter of Abel Peirce and granddaughter of Maj. Ezekiel Peirce, the famous town clerk.

In the second article relating to John S. Madden, it is stated that he moved to Wilkes-Barre in 1833, where he remained until 1844. The fact is he removed to Wyoming in 1833, where he carried on the business of tailoring for a year or two, and then removed to Plymouth, where he married a daughter of Robert Davenport, deceased, and from there he moved to Bradford County in 1844. He was never a Wilkes-Barrean. Mr. Madden was a sterling man in every respect—of keen intellect—well informed upon public topics—a sharp conversationalist,—and of great energy and efficiency in business affairs. S. JENKINS.

#### New York Currency in 1754.

[Letter to the Editor.]

In the March number of your historical magazine is an article copied from Dr. Hollister's article in *Scranton Truth* which says that at the treaty with the Indians in 1754 the Connecticut Susquehanna Company paid the Indians two thousand pounds in silver, New York currency, and that that was equal to \$10,000. This latter is of course a mistake. A shilling in New York currency was twelve and a half cents, and it took eight of them to make a dollar. Consequently two thousand pounds in that currency would be only \$5,000, instead of \$10,000. I think the Dr. hardly made that mistake. Perhaps it was the compositor in the *Truth* office—and that he thought he ought to correct the Dr. However, if New York currency was at that time more valuable than the same number of pounds in English sterling money, I would like to have

the doctor explain the matter so that one like me can understand it. The doctor was brought up in a part of the country where no other currency was used in amounts less than two dollars and fifty cents, and he, if any one, ought to know. They used almost if not quite universally such terms as these—two shillings, six shillings, nine shillings, twelve shillings, and all the intermediate numbers. The equivalents in United States money of the above was: 25 cents, 75 cents; \$1.12½, \$1.50, \$2.25, and \$2.50. This last would be one pound, New York currency.

Askam, May 10, 1887.

H. B. P.

#### The Moravians in the Wyoming Valley.

[The following extracts are from the diary of the Moravian Indian missionary, John Martin Mack, who in the summer of 1748, in company with David Zeisberger, visited the Indians residing on the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna. Mack's first visit to the Wyoming Valley was made in the autumn of 1742, with Zinzendorf and suite, and while stationed Gnadenhuetten on the Mahoning, between 1748 and 1755, he made frequent journeys along the Susquehanna in the interests of the missions of his church. These extracts relate to that part of their journey from Shamokin to Wyoming and thence to Gnadenhuetten, and treat of the famine then prevailing in the Indian country. They are furnished the RECORD by John W. Jordan, of Philadelphia.]

July 22, 1748. Set out early this morning up the North Branch. At noon lost the path,—we took the path that leads into the woods, which the Indians take on their hunts,—but towards evening recovered the right trail. Camped on a hill by the river. It began to rain so hard, and the water swept down the hillside so strongly, that we feared we would be washed into the river. We had no hut, as we could get no bark.

July 23. Continued on our journey through the rain. Towards noon as we approached a town, we were met by a drunken Indian. It proved to be a Tutelar town, and when we entered it in hopes of drying our clothes by a fire, we found everybody drunk. We went on for a few miles, built a fire and dried and warmed ourselves. By evening reached Nescopeck in a heavy rain. The people took us across the river in a canoe, but we found but few at home; those there, however, were acquainted with Brother Mack. We were given a hut, but nothing to eat, and after drying ourselves retired for the night.

July 24. Remained here for the day. Our host cooked some wild beans, of which we partook, and we gave him some of our bread. The Indians have gone to the settlements to procure food.

July 25. Journeyed on along the river to Wamphalobank, [Wapwallopen,] stopping there a few hours, but found only one family at home, who boiled the bark of trees for food. Famine had driven all the others to the white settlements. Proceeded up to Wajomick, [Wyoming,] and by evening came to the lower end of the flats, where we passed the night.

July 26. Arose early and went up the flats. On coming to the first huts, found only a man and his wife at home and some decrepit old people, scarcely able to move. They complained of their need, of the want of food and of imminent starvation. We lodged at one of the huts.

July 27. Crossed the river and visited the Nanticookes, who moved here last Spring from Chesapeake Bay, and found them clever and modest people. Their young people, they said, had been gone several weeks to the white settlements to procure provisions. In the evening the Nanticookes set us over the river and we went to our lodgings. Visited some old people, among them a man who had collected wood to make a fire, but was so emaciated that he had to crawl on his hands and knees. Bro. Mack took the fagots into his hut and made a fire, much to the gratitude of the aged invalid.

July 28. This morning our host was busy painting himself. He painted his face all red, striped his shirt with the same color and also his moccasins. He volunteered to accompany us a few miles to point out the best crossing over the Susquehanna. Set out on our return, passing Wamphalobank, and thence over the country, crossing Wolf Mountain to Gnadenhuetten, where we arrived on 30 July.

#### The Merediths.

Samuel Meredith, who was Treasurer of the United States under Washington from 1789 to 1801, removed to northern Pennsylvania in 1812, where he made great improvements at a place he named Belmont, in Wayne county, and where he died in 1817.

He was buried with no monument to mark his grave, and it was not until Dr. Hollister, the veteran antiquarian of Scranton, called public attention to this fact in 1878 through the columns of the *Scranton Republican*, that the people of Mt. Pleasant took care of his grave. His son Thomas removed from Belmont to a spot about one mile below Carbondale, where he died, leaving a son Samuel, who died in Philadelphia, at the almshouse.

Dr. Hollister, in a letter to the *Scranton Truth*, says that "B. F. Sager, of Peckville, has in his possession a rare and interesting

relic. It is an old and curious gentleman's dressing case which once belonged to Samuel Meredith, the first Treasurer of the United States under Washington, from 1789 to 1801. Washington and Meredith were great friends, and it is probable that the case was used by the General when he visited him in former years. When Meredith died in 1817 at Belmont, Wayne Co., Pa., where he had an immense possession of land, this dressing case passed into the hands of his son, Thomas Meredith, who removed to a wild place in the woods a mile below Carbondale, where it was carefully preserved by the family for many years. After the death of Thomas, his son Samuel came into the possession of this antique piece of furniture which did not suit his fancy, not being modern enough, when he rebuilt the old mansion. He stored it awhile in his barn, and finally gave it to his neighbor and friend, Mrs. Sophia Sager. Upon the death of Mrs. Sager some years ago, her son took possession of this relic, which he prizes highly. It is built from curl maple, ingeniously carved, has four drawers, and is in an excellent state of preservation. It is the oldest dressing case in the valley.

#### Old Church Recollections.

In the RECORD of June 3 a communication signed "Scribe" recalled an accident that occurred during the building of the church erected by the Presbyterian congregation in 1830. The item came to the notice of J. T. Bennett, of Egan, Dakota, who has written his recollections of the occurrence to H. B. Plumb, and through his courtesy we copy the following:

"I have seen the piece in the RECORD written by 'Scribe.' He thinks Ira Marcy was in the first church. When John Darken was raising the roof all went down. Earl Barnes was in the fall and Ira Marcy was at work on a bridge across a creek on the opposite side of the Susquehanna from Berwick. John Darken left the work and Uncle Henry Blackman took it to finish. Darius Finch took the job of putting up the walls of the basement, which he did all in cut stone. He threw away all of the wall that the building was first raised on. I was with Uncle Henry Blackman at the commencement and until the church was finished. Ira, Renben and Avery Marcy were all there. Ira had one of his eyes injured when a child by a fork in untying a shoestring, and he had this eye knocked out while on the roof by a broken piece of shingle. This was in 1832.

"Thomas H. Parker and Ashbel Barnett were the men that began the brick church on the site where the first church stood. Parker died and Barnett returned to New Jersey. D. A. Fall and Earl Barnes then took the job and finished it.

"The Methodists first bought the old church on Public Square of the Presbyterians. The latter then bought it back while their church was building. I took all the old big high box seats out of the old church and put in new seats and a new pulpit. This was shortly after I finished building Sylvester Dana's academy. I was a looker on when the old church on Public Square was taken down. The tower was cut off above the roof and fell point downward.  
J. T. BENNETT."

#### Two Lackawanna Old Settlers.

Lackawanna County has two aged citizens whose recollections are clear as to events in the early part of the century.

William Fogg, colored, was born in Connecticut, and will soon be 94 years of age. He has lived in Scott Township since 1811. Mr. Fogg remembers distinctly going at one time with an old horse to Judge Shoemaker's in the Wyoming Valley, with a few pounds of maple sugar, which he exchanged for a bushel of corn. The next year he chopped and burned a fallow and planted corn among the stumps and logs.

Samuel Gardner was born in the Wyoming Valley Oct. 12, 1798. He is at present a resident of Ransom.

#### Fourth of July in 1827.

Capt. James P. Dennis, who ranks now among the oldest inhabitants from way-back, was in town Saturday, and in conversation gave the following account of how the 4th of July was celebrated 60 years ago in Wilkes-Barre as he saw it:

"The day was ushered in by the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells at sunrise. At eight or nine o'clock, upon the Public Square, the people assembled. A long arbor was built and covered with green boughs. A table was put in occupying its whole length. They then raised a large liberty pole. Some religious services were held, the Declaration of Independence was read, and then all the male portion of assembled people joined hands and marched around the pole to the tune of some patriotic song. I remember one stanza of a song sung by the late Hon. Andrew Beaumont in excellent style and much force, a stirring tune:

"The British yoke, the Gallic chain,  
Was forged upon our necks in vain.  
All haughty tyrants we'll disdain,  
And shout long live America."

"In the meantime the long tables in the arbor had been lavishly covered with such good eatables as the country afforded, and supplied by the patriotic ladies of the neighborhood. Then came the dinner and the toasts and speeches. One toast I recollect, 'The Enemies of our Country—May they be mounted on porcupine saddles on rough-riding horses and never-ending journeys.'"



## THE EVENTFUL DAY

In the History of Wyoming Duty Commemorated—A Tribute to the Wives and Mothers of 1778—The Flight from the Stricken Valley.

The exercises commemorative of the battle and massacre of Wyoming were held at the foot of the monument on Saturday forenoon. The base of the monument was decorated with baskets and vases of flowers and an American flag floated from a staff at the entrance. Some of the private houses in Wyoming were also decorated with the American colors. The day was intensely hot but a delicious breeze played around the monument, so that beneath its shade and that of the surrounding trees the assemblage managed to keep comfortable. The grounds had been made ready by Payne Pettebone, who lives near by and whose sprinkling wagon was set to work laying some of the dust.

At 10:30 Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order. He is 82 years of age and has been the president of the Wyoming Commemorative Association since its inception. The colonel's remarks were singularly appropriate and impressive, even eloquent. Though his bodily powers naturally feel the tooth of time his mind is as clear as a bell and his utterances were characterized by force and feeling, piety and patriotism and at times were aglow with the fires of native oratory.

Capt. Calvin Parsons offered prayer and the assemblage, led by Hon. Steuben Jenkins and Mr. Parsons, sang "Before Jehovah's awful throne," to the tune of "Old Hundred."

The address of the day followed by W. A. Wilcox, E-q., of the bars of Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties, his subject being "The Flight from Wyoming." Passing by the oft-told story of the battle and massacre, Mr. Wilcox gave the after-scenes, and traced the escape of the fugitives by the several routes open to them—down the Susquehanna by rafts and boats, others on foot across the mountains by the "Warriors' Path" and down the Lehigh, and still others through the "Shades of Death" and across the Pocono to the Delaware River. True they were not in the battle and their names were not on the monument, but theirs was the agony of suspense; they had taught their husbands and sons patriotism; they showed a fortitude, a faith and a power of endurance that brought final success even after defeat. Many graphic incidents were given and a lofty tribute was paid to the escaping women, some of whom suffered the pains of maternity in the mountain wilds. Sunbury could be reached by canoes in 24 hours, Stroudsburg, then Fort Penn,

in 2 or 3 days, and a fortnight was required in which to reach Connecticut.

Mr. Wilcox's paper was warmly applauded and he was congratulated upon having worked up one of the mere incidents of the battle into so admirable a sketch. Though to a certain extent a compilation the paper also contained original matter, the author having evidently availed himself of the unpublished historical data in the possession of Mr. Jenkins, whose son-in-law Mr. Wilcox is. We hope to reproduce the paper, or portions of it, in subsequent issues.

Gen. Edmund L. Dana was called on by Chairman Dorrance. He expressed his pleasure at the paper just read. From what he had seen of war, the battle was not the great thing. Ten times as many die of privations, wounds and exposure as there are killed in battle. Judge Dana pictured the long sufferings and trials of patience and courage before and after the fight. For months before, peril rested over this community. There was a war cloud in the north and they knew not when it would burst. The settlers were cut off from help, their able bodied men were in the Continental Army and cries for aid in that direction met with no response. Imagine the night and day before the final shock, the march out of the fort to meet an overwhelming foe, the sad farewells. The women nerved the men to action and never counseled flight. Had the women dissuaded the men they would have blotted out one of the brightest chapters in the history of the world. The heroism of the women of Wyoming was a part of unwritten history.

Payne Pettebone indulged in some interesting reminiscences of his boyhood days, comparing wages of 1837 with that of 1897.

Dr. Hakes said we are a trifling people and there was a lamentable and growing absorption in base ball, horse races and slugging matches, to the exclusion of things which elevate. On occasions like this it was not expected there would be many to take an interest, but he would rather meet 40 or 50 people filled with patriotism and noble thoughts than to see that many thousand drawn together by idle curiosity or to gratify some brutal or degraded instinct. He, too, paid a tribute to the women of Wyoming and said that for sterling worth, industry, piety, charity and patriotism they have never been excelled.

Secretary Weesley Johnson was called upon to report. Among other things he made some feeling allusions to the continued infirmity of Dr. H. Hollister, one of the most able and efficient members of the association, and then read the following communication received from him a few days previous to the meeting:

SCRANTON, June 18, 1887.—Gentlemen of the Wyoming Commemorative Association: I regret that I cannot be with you any more in person at your annual meeting July 3, but I am glad to know that you are able to meet in health and properly commemorate this sad day, that above all in the history of the country will rank first to be remembered by the old patriotic sons and daughters of Wyoming.

Squire Johnson then referred to the fact that it was just ten years since the Association held its first meeting, and that the officers had remained the same ever since. Of the original members of the executive committee we still have Dorrance, Jenkins, Hollister, Dana, Parsons and Pettebone among the living, while there have gone from among us Wright, Wisner, Atherton, Coray, Gordon and Barker, the last having died since our last meeting here. Thus it will be seen that within the first decade after the formation of the association about one-half its members have crossed the line. How long will it be at this rate before the last man, old and infirm, will assemble here on some future July morning to redeem his promise to make this annual pilgrimage to the common grave of our patriotic ancestors?

The chairman called upon F. C. Johnson of the RECORD, for some remarks, he inviting those present having old family letters, documents, or anything interesting concerning the early history of the valley to forward copies of originals to him for publication and thus save for the future much of the unwritten history that would otherwise be lost.

The patriotic hymn "America" was sung after which an adjournment was had to Laycock's hotel where a sumptuous dinner was served, Capt. Parsons presiding, in the absence of Col. Dorrance who was not feeling well enough to attend.

After dinner Mrs. Judge Pfouts gave a most thrilling account of the escape of her grandmother, wife of Capt. Stewart, who was killed in the battle, how the family passed down the river to Harrisburg and found shelter among sympathizing friends and relatives, as she had heard the story from the lips of the old lady.

The meeting, though not large, was a pleasant and enjoyable one, and the association adjourned to meet on July 3 of next year.

#### Caleb E. Wright's Latest Novel.

The author of "A Legend of Bucks County" will need no introduction to RECORD readers, for he is a former Wilkes-Barrean. We refer to Caleb E. Wright, Esq., now of Doylestown. He is not a novice at novel writing, as his "Tale of Wyoming," "Marcus Blair" and "On the Lackawanna" abundantly attest. It is safe to say that the new one suffers in nowise in comparison with its predecessors, either in

literary excellence or in ingenuity of plot. Like all of Mr. Wright's novels it is to a certain extent founded on fact. While it is a "love story" it deals with something more and gets down into the home life of our ancestors in a manner that makes it fascinating in the extreme.

The scene is laid in Old Bucks and is doubtless based upon actual occurrences in that county a century ago. Just what foundation it has in fact would be interesting to know. The places in the story are actual and it is to be presumed that not a few of the present dwellers in Bucks can recognize their ancestors in Mr. Wright's fascinating tale.

The plot is so skillfully created that the reader is afforded constant surprises. An interest is awakened in the opening chapters, impelling the reader not to lay it down until the finish is reached. The writer of this review of the novel read it at a single sitting.

The title is not "taking" enough to suggest the value of the book as a work of fiction. Had it been named for its hero, "Bonnville Cresson, or a Legend of Bucks County," it would have been a much more attractive title for the shop shelves. However, there are so many books with attractive covers and poor contents we can well afford to pardon Mr. Wright for reversing the order and making the contents the principal thing in this creature of his brain and pen.

Mr. Wright's career as a lawyer furnishes him admirable material for the prosecution and conviction of his badly-treated hero and it is quite in keeping with the author's fondness for the church of his choice, to picture the hero as becoming an itinerant preacher and stirring camp meeting with such fervid pleadings as to bring hardened sinners weeping to the altar. The introduction of Gen. Washington in the opening chapter, where he compliments the little waif, Bonnville, on his success in winning a foot race is among the happier minor incidents, but not more so, perhaps, than is the last, where the orphan boy, having overcome all the obstacles in the way of his advancement, having proven himself innocent of the crime charged against him in his younger days, having acquired wealth and fame, is vindicated before the world and is at last united to the object of his love, the wedding guests including Washington himself.

The book is deserving of a generous patronage for its inherent worth. We understand, also, that it is a present from Mr. Wright to his printer friend, B. McGinty, of Doylestown, who is to have the proceeds of sales. Consequently every purchase will go to swell the exchequer of a deserving but not overly wealthy printer. The price is \$1.25 and the book is on sale at Brown's.

## LAYING THE CORNER STONE

Of a New Edifice for one of the Oldest  
Congregations in Wyoming Valley—  
Address by Rev. Dr. Parke.

The impressive services of laying the cornerstone for the new First Presbyterian Church took place on the floor of the new building on the corner of Northampton and Franklin Streets Monday, July 11, at 6 pm. There were many of the members present, the weather being clear and pleasant.

The services began with singing of the doxology after which Rev. R. B. Webster made an invocation. Rev. Caspar R. Gregory read a scripture lesson and all present joined Dr. Hodge in repeating the creed.

The address was delivered by Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., of Pittston, who said, after some pleasant introductory remarks:

The men and the women who came to Wyoming Valley a hundred years ago to make for themselves and children homes, had been trained intellectually and religiously in the schools and the churches of New England, and they were not wanting in the courage and thrift and godliness of their Puritan fathers.

They have long since passed away, but their works abide as evidence that they were God fearing people. They founded the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, called a minister of Christ to labor among them, the Rev. Jacob Johnson. And as soon as they were able built for themselves a sanctuary. That sanctuary was still standing in 1844 when I first came to Wilkes-Barre, and with its tall gracefully tapering spire, was pointing heavenward. Old Michael, the faithful sexton of the church for almost half a century, still rung the curfew bell in true New England style, greatly to the disgust of some young people who were not prepared to go home at nine o'clock.

That church on the Green, the first completed sanctuary in the valley, was a union church for the accommodation of all denominations. The Presbyterians in 1829 called the Rev. Nicholas Murray to be their pastor, became in form, what they had previously been in fact, a Presbyterian organization, and with the help of the Presbyterians of New Jersey, built themselves a new house of worship on Franklin street.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. John Dorrance, who succeeded Dr. Murray, the brick house in which you have been worshipping for nearly fifty years was erected.

Wilkes-Barre has become a city of large wealth and palatial homes. In her commercial prosperity the First Presbyterian Church has shared largely and her sons and daughters have determined to manifest their gratitude

to the giver of all mercies by erecting a new sanctuary, adapted in all respects to the needs of the congregation and worthy of the Wilkes-Barre of 1887. In this, we believe they have acted wisely. And we are here to-day to lay the corner-stone of the building and to pray that He who has put it into their hearts to build, may dwell in the building when it is complete; and that here in days to come many sons and daughters may be born into the kingdom of God.

Money expended in the building of sanctuaries where the gospel is preached and God is worshiped is well spent. Material prosperity divorced from religion is a questionable blessing. It is sanctified wealth that beautifies and glorifies a city, and that brings with it joy and peace and blessings to our hearts and homes. It is this type of wealth that abides. The wealth of parents does not always come to their children, and when it does come to them it does not always prove a blessing. But grace is in a measure entailed, transmitted. It descends from generation to generation, unto the thousandth generation. You, the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, are to-day reaping a harvest from the sowing of a hundred years ago, and this whole community shares in this harvest. We are, under God, what our father and mother of a hundred years ago made us.

This old Presbyterian Church, of Wilkes-Barre, among the oldest, if not the oldest church organized in this valley, with a history intensely interesting, closely interwoven with the early settlement of this part of Pennsylvania, has been a power for good in all this region. Quietly, but steadily, in a conservative way, it has helped to develop and cultivate what is good in man and to restrain "the evil," by maintaining the ordinances of God's house and by seeking to bring men to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ.

This church has been fortunate in many ways. There have been in it many noble Christian men and women who have held up the hands of the servants of God, who have stood on these walls of Zion, around whose memories there still abides a sweet aroma. Your pastors have not been common men. Those who have led you for the past fifty years, it has been my privilege to know personally. Of Marsh and Johnson and Taylor and Molton, I know nothing except what our historians tell us. The Rev. Cyrus Gilderaleve, whose pastorate commenced here in 1819 and antedates my knowledge of you, was a missionary who looked carefully after the widely scattered sheep of the flock. He preached in Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Hanover, Northmoreland, Pittston, Provi-

dence and Tunkhannock. The Rev. Nicholas Murray who succeeded him was one of the strong men of our church, in the pulpit and in our ecclesiastical courts, but without the missionary spirit of his predecessor. He limited his labor to Wilkes-Barre. The Rev. John Dorrance, "to the manor born," and with a large amount of Puritan blood in his veins, was an earnest preacher, a wise counsellor and a thorough organizer. He laid the foundations of the Presbyterian churches in Ashley, Shickshinny, Plymouth Lackawanna, Pittston and Scranton. He made an earnest effort to establish a Presbyterian Academy at Wyoming and for your flourishing Ladies Seminary at Wilkes-Barre you are largely indebted to him. Personally I was in a position to know that his plans of work took in this whole region. He was not an Episcopal Bishop but he was a Bishop who had a supervision of all the churches in the county. Of the lamented Dr. A. A. Hodge, who succeeded Dr. Dorrance I need not speak. Surely you have reason to be thankful that you have been permitted to sit under his preaching. While with a measure of pride you point to him as your former pastor, you have been and still are fed with the finest of the wheat. And let me just remind you that of those to whom much has been given much will be required.

Allow me in conclusion to congratulate the representatives here assembled, of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, on the prospect of a speedy realization of the hopes inspired by the laying of the corner stone. We love to see our honored mother, of whom we are confessedly proud, renewing her strength, if not her age, as the years roll by.

At the conclusion of Dr. Parke's address George R. Bedford, Esq., read a list of the contents of the corner stone, as follows: One Bible, one Confession of Faith, minutes of the General Assembly of 1836, history of the church, by Sheldon Reynolds, Esq.; officers of the church, including pastor, trustees, deacons, building committee, session, architect and builder, organist and choir; list of communicants, list of officers and teachers of the church Sabbath school, list of officers and teachers of South Wilkes-Barre Mission Sabbath School and list of officers and teachers of Grant Street Sabbath School, sermon preached in 1876 by Rev. W. S. Parsons on the history of the Sunday School; photograph of the old church taken July 9, 1887, and of the interior taken Christmas, 1886; history of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the church and its members; daily and religious papers and city directory; officers and committees of Men's Association

for Christian Work of First Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Hodge then performed the service of laying the corner stone of a house dedicated to the worship of God in the manner of the Presbyterian Church of North America, concluding with prayer. All present sang "All hail the power of Jesus' name," after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Horace G. Miller, of the Church of the Covenant.

#### Historical Society Meeting.

The rain is to blame for a very slim attendance at the special meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society in their rooms on South Franklin Street Tuesday, June 21. The members present were Judge Dana, president, Dr. Ingham, George B. Kulp, Esq. and G. Mortimer Lewis, Esq. The meeting was not formally called to order, but a general discussion was had in reference to the proposition to move into the rear portion of the Osterhout Library building. Mr. Lewis read a report of the committee on repairs, which will be presented at the next meeting of the society.

A highly satisfactory bid, Mr. Lewis said, has been received from Contractor Shepherd, who agrees to furnish all necessary repairs and the cases for the cabinet at a total cost of \$977. The bookcases, which will be located on the ground floor of the present lecture room, will be constructed of oak or ash, with glass doors, for \$2 and \$2.50 a running foot. It was roughly estimated that the society library will demand 80 feet, the cases being 7 feet high.

Considerable difference of opinion was manifest as to the desirability of removing the possessions of the society to the custody of the Osterhout library. Mr. Kulp was strongly of the opinion that it would mean a strangulation and annihilation of the society. Dr. Ingham evidently thought that it would be a case of micogenation that would seriously impair the stamina of the society, and that it would mean its eventual absorption by the Osterhout library. Mr. Lewis, on the contrary, believed that the society would find adequate room in the Osterhout addendum for its books and cabinet. Judge Dana, who spoke with authority, being an Osterhout trustee, observed that the clause in Mr. Osterhout's will, charging the trustees to provide adequate quarters for the Historical Society, would be carried out to the letter. A majority of the trustees are members of the society and have its interests clearly in view. He thought that in as much as the society is now crowded it could make no wiser move than to take advantage of the Osterhout bequest of quarters.

**Death of Rev. George D. Stroud.**

The sudden, though not wholly unexpected death of Rev. George D. Stroud, rector of St. James' Parish, Pittston, occurred at the rectory at 6 o'clock pm. on June 29, and has cast a gloom over all the circles in which he has moved. In his death the church has lost a devout and useful servant, the community a valued member, the State an exemplary citizen, and the Grand Army a loved and respected comrade and chaplain. The funeral services will be held at St. James' Church to-morrow (Friday) at 11:30 o'clock in the forenoon and the remains and cortege will move thence by train to Philadelphia, where the interment will take place in Germantown. Those friends who desire to take a last look upon the features of the deceased can do so by calling at the rectory by or before 10 o'clock am. The coffin will not be opened at the church.—*Pittston Press, Thursday.*

The funeral service over the late Rev. George D. Stroud took place in St. John's Episcopal Church, Pittston, July 1, Rev. D. Webster Coxe, of West Pittston, and Rev. Henry L. Jones, of Wilkes-Barre, officiating. The pallbearers were G. A. R. men, deceased having been chaplain of the post in Pittston. The body was taken by the noon train to Germantown for interment. In its biographical sketch the *Gazette* says:

Mr. Stroud, though but 46 years old, had a very large experience. He was a soldier of the late war and was conspicuous for enterprise and bravery. He was quartermaster's sergeant in the 6th Pa. Cavalry, Rush's Lancers, and was mustered out in 1862. He was captain of the 20th Pennsylvania Cavalry in 1863, served his time and in 1864 he organized a company of independent cavalry and was mustered out at the close of war. He was a past commander in the Grand Army of the Republic, present chaplain of Nugent Post, and past chaplain of a Philadelphia Post. He was a soldier in every sense of the word, and always felt an active interest in whatever pertained to the history of the war. Deceased undertook mission work after ordination as a priest of the Episcopal Church at Towanda, where he had three charges. He was rector of St. Peter's at Tunkhannock in 1863. He spent the following year in Philadelphia in an effort to cure a local affliction, and subsequently took charge of St. James' Parish. He proved an acceptable pastor and added greatly to the strength and piety of the church by his earnest work and christian example. He leaves a wife, three daughters and a son as survivors.

Mr. Stroud's ailment was of long standing complicated with brain fever. His death leaves the pulpit of St. James vacant.

**Mrs. Cornelia Butler Dead.**

The friends of Mrs. Cornelia Richards Butler who had seen her in apparent health but a few weeks ago, will be shocked to hear of her death which occurred on Tuesday evening, July 12. Though of advanced age Mrs. Butler bore her years with surprising strength and was not considered to be in falling health until within a few weeks.

Mrs. Butler was born in December 1801 at Farmington, Hartford County, Conn. In 1828 she married Col. John Lord Butler, who died at Wilkes-Barre in August 1868, since which time she has lived at the house of her son-in-law Judge Stanley Woodward, where her death took place.

Mrs. Butler came of Revolutionary stock, her father, Samuel Richards, having been captain of a company in the Connecticut line throughout the war. Capt. Richards marched with his company from Farmington to Boston in time to take part in the Battle of Bunker Hill. He kept a journal of each day's events during his entire service, the journal being still in the possession of his granddaughter who naturally regards it as a precious relic. Capt. Richards was also a member of the Society of the Cincinnati organized by officers of the American Army and composed now of their lineal descendants.

Mrs. Butler's mother was Sarah Welles, daughter of Jonathan Welles, of Glastonbury, Conn., and a sister of Roswell Welles who was admitted to the bar of this county in 1787, the year of its organization.

Mrs. Butler was an eminently pious woman of most lovable character. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in whose Sabbath School she had been a teacher for more than half a century, her long service being honored, on her retirement in 1880, by a beautiful testimonial from the members of the Sabbath School. She was a constant reader and diligent student of the Bible and read the revised Old Testament through during the last year of her life. She was perhaps as widely known and respected as any woman in Wilkes-Barre and the close of her long and faithful life will be generally mourned.

Mrs. Butler had four children, Frank, Chester, Sarah and Emily, all but one of whom survive. Chester died while pursuing his studies at college. Frank is a resident of Virginia, but was present at his mother's bedside during her illness. Miss Emily Butler resides with her sister, Mrs. Stanley Woodward.

**Mrs. Butler's Funeral.**

The funeral services of the late Mrs. Cornelia Butler took place at the residence of Judge Woodward July 14 at 5 pm. The parlor and hall were filled with friends who

were present to pay the last token of respect, while many listened to the service from the porches.

Dr. Hodge read from the 90th Psalm, "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations," and Dr. Parke read the 15th chapter of I Corinthians. The choir of the First Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Shearn, Miss James and Messrs. Hartland and Evans, sang appropriate hymns. Dr. Hodge offered prayer, rendering thanks for the life which had shown so plainly the indwelling of God's spirit, praying that the example thus set before so many present might not be lost.

The pall-bearers were four of the elders of the church, A. T. McClinton, Esq., N. Rutter, R. J. Flick and John Welles Hollenback. Alex. Farnham, Esq., R. C. Shoemaker, C. P. Hunt, G. Murray Reynolds, Judge Rice and T. H. Atherton acted as carriers. The cortege was very long, extending from Market to Northampton Streets. Interment was made in the family plot in Hollenback Cemetery.

Among the large number of relatives present were Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Butler and Frank Butler, of Virginia.

#### DR. PARKE'S TRIBUTE.

[Letter to the Editor.]

There is an interest attaches to many aged persons arising simply out of their relations to the past and present, as connecting links. In the case of Mrs. John L. Butler, who at an advanced age has just been laid away out of our sight, there was this element of interest. When she, a bright and cultured New England girl, came to Wilkes-Barre to reside, the old people with whom she was intimately associated, knew from personal experience what the Wyoming Valley was before the massacre in 1778. Many of them were her near relatives. What she knew, therefore, from personal observation and what had been told her by those who were prominent actors in the stirring scenes in the history of the valley, covered a hundred years and more. In an important sense she reflected the history of a hundred years. This fact in itself gave interest to her life, and retaining as she did, in an eminent degree, all her faculties up to the end of her life, it made her one of the most interesting persons in Wilkes-Barre.

But this was only incidental in Mrs. Butler's case. The charm of her life was not in what she had heard and seen in her extended life, although coupled with a bright and cultivated mind, kept bright until the end. Nor was it her rare conversational powers that gave her prominence in every social circle favored with her presence. She did not in her younger days or in more advanced life ignore the claims of society, but

she never was a society woman. Certainly it never was her ambition to shine as such. She was literary in her tastes and aimed to keep abreast with the age in her knowledge of all the great questions that men and women are talking and thinking about. Neither was the charm of her life in her intelligence, taste and culture, that would have done honor to any new England woman. But it was in her character, in what she was, rather than in what she had heard and what she had done. She had unshaken faith in God, and this faith gave direction to her life. Without being demonstrative in matters of religion, for she rarely talked of her personal experience, she was an earnest Christian woman, who had faith in the power of the gospel to save.

Her record in the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre is a marvelous record of faithful work up to and beyond her four score years.

All women have not the encouragement from their husbands that Mrs. Butler had from hers to make their homes hospitable, but she certainly managed to make a home where christian hospitality abounded. The writer of these lines has abundant reason to know of what he writes. With no more claim on Mrs. Butler than on any other christian woman in Wilkes-Barre, when coming here, a missionary to the Lackawanna region, no mother could have done more to help an inexperienced son than Mrs. Butler did for me, and what she did for me she did for other young men. She did not simply open her house for an occasional grand entertainment—the doors of her hospitable home were always open. She was not, I assume, free from the weaknesses that inhere in human nature. We have heard of women who were "supremely" selfish. Mrs. Butler, so far as she appeared to me, was supremely unselfish. She may have had her littleness and meanness and pride and worldliness to contend against, as the rest of us have, but it did not appear. She was a grand woman and she bore the impress of true nobility in every feature of her character. She was intelligent, amiable, gentle, charitable, faithful and true—a christian in the highest sense of that term. There was nothing coarse in her nature, but in all her instincts she was a refined, true woman, loving and lovable.

When Cornelia Richards left Farmington, more than sixty years ago, to become Mrs. John L. Butler, she was no doubt missed from the quiet parish of Dr. Noah Porter, father of ex-President Porter, of Yale College. Now, at the advanced age of 86, as she lays her armor down, her pastor, the Rev. Dr. Hodge, cannot but feel that he has lost a most valuable helper. A light has

gone out of her daughter's beautiful home, out of the church in which she has worshipped and worked all these years, and out of Wilkes-Barre.

She will not worship in the new sanctuary, the corner-stone of which was laid as her spirit plumed its wings to soar from the earth, but she will worship in the house not made with hands, of which Christ is the corner-stone.

N. G. PARKE.

#### Death of Mrs. Charles Bennet.

The many residents of Wilkes-Barre who were acquainted with Mrs. Charles Bennet, of 48 South River Street, will be startled to be apprised of her sudden death by apoplexy on Thursday evening, June 16, at 8:45 o'clock. Mrs. Bennet was in apparent health up to within four hours of her death and at about 4:30 o'clock started with her eldest daughter to drive, her younger daughter, Miss Martie, going ahead of the carriage on horseback. Before reaching Union Street on River the driver perceived a sudden commotion on the rear seat, and seeing that Mrs. Bennet had fainted, called to Miss Martie, who turned round and came back. She realized at once that her mother was seriously ill and with much presence of mind and courage dismounted, dispatched the driver at once for Dr. Mayer and drove the team of horses home as rapidly as possible.

Dr. Mayer soon arrived and with the aid of neighbors Mrs. Bennet was removed to her house. The doctor found that the attack of apoplexy was very severe, and from the first gave out no hope of recovery. Mrs. Bennet lingered without gaining consciousness until nearly 9 o'clock, when she expired.

Mrs. Bennet was 62 years of age, having been born at Franklin, Mich., in 1825. Her maiden name was Sarah Sly, and she was the aunt of the late Major D. S. Bennet, of the Luzerne bar. She was the widow of Charles Bennet, whose death occurred in August, 1866. Mrs. Bennet had two children, Sarah and Martha, both of whom survive.

Mrs. Bennet was a consistent Christian woman whose life was much given up to charity, but in a quiet, unassuming way that attracted little attention. She was of a retiring disposition and was devoted to her family, rarely appearing in any public place except at church where she was regularly in her pew. Mrs. Bennet had excellent business qualities and has managed the affairs of her husband's large estate since his death, 22 years ago. She had not been in good health for several years, but had not been confined to her bed and was accustomed to drive on every pleasant day.

#### Death of an Aged Clergyman.

News of the death of Rev. W. W. Turner, father of Mrs. C. M. Conyngham, was received in this city on July 11 and Mr. and Mrs. Conyngham and Miss Conyngham left the next morning to attend the funeral at Hartford. Mr. Turner was 87 years of age, an Episcopal clergyman and probably the last surviving member of the class of 1819 at Yale College. He devoted himself for many years to teaching deaf mutes and during a long period was principal of the American Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb.

#### Hill Family Reunion.

Some time ago Dr. George Hill, of Hughesville, conceived the idea of calling together the members of the family to which he belonged and holding a reunion at Sunbury. On Thursday, June 23, sixty persons met at the Central Hotel in Sunbury. After the dinner a meeting was called in the lecture room of the Reformed Church and George Hill, of Sunbury, was elected temporary chairman. He made a few graceful remarks, welcoming the members of the family to Sunbury. J. Nevin Hill, also of Sunbury, was elected temporary secretary. The following committee on permanent organization was selected: C. F. Hill, Hazleton; Hon. A. H. Hill, Hughesville; J. C. Hill, Esq., Williamsport; Edward Hill, Leechburg; O. W. Hill, Beach Haven, and Frank E. Hill, Philadelphia.

They reported a form of organization and recommended the following persons for permanent officers, who were thereupon elected:

President, Dr. George Hill; Vice President, C. F. Hill; Secretary and Historian, J. Nevin Hill; Treasurer, George Hill; Standing Committee, C. F. Hill, F. K. Hill, Theodore Hill and Edward Hill.

It was decided that the secretary should have a permanent office in Sunbury. After the organization historical papers were read by C. F. Hill, of Hazleton, and J. C. Hill, of Williamsport. The family history was traced back to 1730.

#### An Ancient Church.

The 145th anniversary festival of the Moravian congregation of Bethlehem, organized June 25, 1742, was celebrated on Sunday, June 26, 1887. The festival was ushered in by trombonists rendering appropriate chorals from the steeple of the Moravian church. The anniversary sermon was preached by Rev. Morris W. Leibert. At the anniversary love feast in the afternoon Rev. J. M. Levering, who presided, read the report kept in the archives of the church referring to the founding of Bethlehem in 1742 and the official services of Count Zinzendorf, father of the Brethren's church, during his sojourn there and in Philadelphia.

#### Domain of the Dead.

The five-acre field lying between Hollenback Cemetery and Mill Creek has recently been added to the territory of that beautiful city of the dead. John Welles Hollenback, for the sum of one dollar to him in hand paid, has sold and conveyed this desirable property to the association as additional burying ground. The short feeder branch canal from above the dam at the mouth of Mill Creek, connecting with the old North Branch Canal, is to be filled in, and John Tracy has the contract for filling. A substantial retaining wall will be built from the new stone arch bridge down to the rocky bluff below the old dam, after which the field will be laid out in lots, corresponding with the older grounds as laid out some 30 years ago. The iron fence will be extended the whole length of River Street, while the sides facing the L. V. R.R. and Mill Creek will be protected by a stone wall, same as the one already in place on the old grounds. This new addition will give the cemetery a territory of over 23 acres, and there is no doubt that it will soon be, if it is not already, one of the most attractive cemeteries in the country, outside of the large cities. While on the subject of cemeteries, perhaps it will not be out of place to remark that it is now admitted by everybody that our city authorities were guilty of almost a crime against the future generations to inhabit this city in not securing the whole of the Bidlack farm at the time of purchasing ground for the new city cemetery. The money then in the cemetery treasury (\$35,000) has been sunk in the general city fund, and we are no better off than if it had been sunk in the depths of the Susquehanna River, while the land in question would now be of inestimable value as a part of the mortuary quarter of the city and surrounding country.

#### A Presbyterian Centennial.

During the coming year there will be held in Philadelphia a centennial celebration commemorating the establishment of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. All churches and Presbyteries will be expected to arrange for the collection and publication of the facts of their history. The committee to prepare the history of the Presbytery of Lackawanna consists of Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke, chairman, Rev. Dr. David Craft, Rev. C. C. Corss and Rev. P. H. Brooks.

By resolution, churches of Presbytery are urged to have historical discourses prepared and copies forwarded to the committee as early as August, 1887, in order that they may be laid before the fall meeting of Presbytery.

#### What it Costs to Run Luzerne County.

The following shows the amount of county expenditures for the six months from Jan. 1 to July 1:

Assessments.....	\$ 4,965 30
Auditing State tax.....	85 00
Assessment State tax.....	613 04
Burial of soldiers.....	460 50
Court expenses.....	3,548 60
County commissioners.....	1,627 50
Commissioners' clerk.....	940 00
Commonwealth costs.....	4,266 68
County audit.....	3,135 00
Constables' returns.....	786 38
County prison.....	7,503 29
County solicitor.....	125 00
Clerk of the courts.....	1,652 35
County bridges.....	7,196 58
County detective.....	600 00
County line survey.....	69 75
District attorney.....	1,959 00
Eastern Penitentiary.....	798 26
Elections.....	4,241 80
Fox certificates, etc.....	502 40
Grand and Petit Jurors.....	5,426 66
Incidentals and postage.....	167 62
Inquests.....	1,642 36
Jury commissioners.....	210 66
Lunatic hospital.....	2,040 78
Luzerne Agricultural Society.....	100 00
Public records.....	1,880 22
Printing and stationery.....	141 53
Public buildings.....	6,995 25
Prothonotary's fees.....	131 80
Poor tax.....	836 82
Road damages.....	1,122 00
Refunded money.....	49 23
Registration.....	2,507 11
Referees.....	3,015 00
Road and bridge views.....	507 88
Road tax.....	328 60
Relief of injured persons.....	50 86
Sheriff's fees.....	2,371 06
Supreme Court costs.....	47 89
Traverse Jurors.....	3,934 91
White Haven bridge.....	2,000 00
Total.....	\$86,616 34

#### Married Fifty Years.

On June 25 Col. Jacob Rice, of Dallas, and his wife, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding day. The colonel is a hale and hearty old man of three score years and ten and his wife is almost the same age.

On Friday afternoon and evening the children and grandchildren began to arrive from Harrisburg, Plymouth, Fairmount and more distant portions of the State, and when the anniversary feast was spread on Saturday over fifty of the immediate relatives of the host and hostess sat down to the well covered tables. The dinner was a sumptuous one, and the large party gathered was a happy and merry one. In the evening the Dallas Cornet Band gave a serenade and were invited to partake of the hospitality of the house. Mr. Rice and his wife were the recipients of many costly gifts and sincerest wishes of the whole community for many more years of happy life.



**Two Wills Filed.**

On July 14 the wills of Miss Ellen C. Rutter and Mrs. Sarah S. Bennet, were admitted to probate in the office of Register of Wills S. W. Boyd.

Miss Rutter disposes of her estate as follows:

To Ellen R. Patterson, daughter of Agnew Patterson, and to May Rutter, daughter of Sample Rutter, each \$250.

To her nephew Thomas Darling \$1,000.

All the rest of her estate she divides into three equal parts and bequeaths them as follows:

One-third to her nieces Mary R. and Emily C. Darling in equal shares; one-third to her nieces Natalie and Hortense D. Beaumont in equal shares, and one-third to her nieces Ellen, Francis and Augusta, children of James M. Rutter, to be held in trust by the executor until they are 25 years of age, the income meanwhile to be used for their support and education.

The will is dated March 9, 1885, and appoints E. P. Darling as executor.

The will of Mrs. Sarah S. Bennet is brief and explicit. Two thirds of her estate real and personal she leaves unconditionally to her daughter, Martha Bennet. The remaining one-third she leaves to Martha Bennet in trust, the income to be devoted to the support of her daughter, Sarah or Sadie Bennet, on whose death it reverts to Martha Bennet. The document is dated Jan. 17, 1883, and appoints Martha Bennet sole executrix.

**THE BOUNDARY LINE.**

**Report of the Commission Appointed by the Lackawanna and Luzerne Courts.**

The commission appointed by the courts of Lackawanna and Luzerne, John F. Snyder, W. H. Sturdevant and W. A. Mason, to determine the boundary line between the counties of Lackawanna and Luzerne, have filed a lengthy report of their finding in the office of the Clerk of the Courts, of Scranton, and a map designating the line as they have made it. A brief of the line is as follows: Beginning at a point on the Susquehanna river a little over a mile above the mouth of Falling Spring Brook, thence south and east crossing the Pennsylvania & New York Canal & RR. Co.'s tracks to a chestnut and two yellow pine trees, the line being all the way through improved lands; thence south to a small brook on north side of public back road and to the left bank of the Lackawanna River, crossing the tracks of the Bloomsburg Division of the D. L. & W. RR.; to the intersection of the Pittston back road with the Moosic road, to the branch railroad to the Central breaker

of the Pennsylvania RR. Coal Co., and then to cut stone corner in little Mill Creek. Thence, up the centre of the bed of the creek to a cut stone corner; thence, south and east, crossing the track of the D. & H. RR. and the Erie & Wyoming Valley RR. at Pleasant Valley station, leaving the station on the right, crossing Spring Brook RR. and Spring Brook at cut, stone for line on easterly side of wagon road leading up the stream; thence to the northwest corner of the Jasper Irving tract and a corner of the Edward Kennedy tract and the corner of Spring Brook Township; located near which is known as "Cubby" or "Covey Swamp." Thence, south to the crest of mountain sloping toward Spring Brook to a cut stone at the wagon road at the foot of the mountain, crossing Spring Brook 150 feet below old Dolph saw mill; thence across the Spring Brook RR. track and Trout Creek to the southeast corner of the Richard Gardner tract; thence across Monument Creek to the corner of Jacob Yoner and Wm. Parker tracts. Thence, between these tracts across branch of Monument Creek and Pittston Road to a corner of Robert Grey and Joseph Lawrence tracts, thence along line of William Mone tract to a cut stone corner of Keating's field and to a cut stone near a road; thence crossing John Christ and Mathias Baff tracts to a cut stone corner in the northerly line of John Spohn tract; thence to a cut stone for line at the road leading from Meadow Run to Bear Lake to a corner in the left bank of Choke Creek; thence down Choke Creek, its centre thereof, its various courses and distances, through a number of tracts to the Lehigh River.—*Scranton Times*.

[This report, it is understood, decides that the small tract of land in dispute is within the limits of Luzerne County.—Ed.]

**Historical Publications Received.**

The *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* is a high grade quarterly published at \$3 a year by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia. The July number contains, among other matter, "Unpublished Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, for 1692;" a list of the several portraits of Benjamin Franklin; "Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania;" Pennsylvania Troops in the U. S. service, in 1787; sketches of members of the Pennsylvania convention which framed the Federal Constitution of 1787; and a fund of interesting historical miscellany.

The *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* is also a quarterly, published at \$3 a year, by the New England

Historic Genealogical Society, 18 Somerset Street, Boston. It comprises 100 pages and presents portraits. The July issue has an interesting title page, the whole forming an invaluable contribution to New England history. Among other things is a list of the Harvard alumni who have held official position, from which it appears that Harvard has furnished two Presidents of the United States, John Adams and John Quincy Adams; two Vice Presidents, John Adams and Eldridge Gerry; 15 Cabinet officers, 23 ministers plenipotentiary, 31 United States Senators, 137 Representatives in Congress, 23 delegates to American and Continental Congress, 30 United States judges, 114 Judges Supreme Courts, 47 Governors of States, 47 presidents of colleges. Certainly a very proud record, though no other college has had an equal chance, as Harvard is 250 years old.

The *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* is published by the society whose name is incorporated in the title, and issued quarterly from 64 Madison Avenue at \$2 per year. It comprises 48 pages and is illustrated. The July number is particularly interesting.

The *Historical Journal*, is published monthly at \$2 a year, by Col. J. F. Meginnis, Williamsport, Pa., editor of the *Gazette and Bulletin*. The August number is an unusually interesting and valuable number. Its leading feature is a biographical sketch, with portrait, of Gov. John Andrew Shulze, including a history of the purchase of the farm at Montoursville, which led to his financial ruin. This is followed with the Journal of John Hamilton, of Clinton County, who made a voyage in a canal boat from Pine Creek to Philadelphia, via Union Canal, in 1839. Edith C. Baily contributes a charming article on "Local History—Its Interest and Importance." The story of a prolific family that emigrated from Greene County to Ohio in 1810 is one of the odd features of the monthly, which is followed with an article on curious grave stone inscriptions. Some valuable information is given of Huntingdon in early times, and the long ownership of the homestead occupied by Hon J. Simpson Africa is shown. Old time furnaces in Butler County and the first mail to Franklin make interesting paragraphs. A letter from Secretary Bayard shows that old Henry Harris, of Muncy, did not purchase his freedom, as he claimed. The department of old persons living is quite full, as well as that of aged deceased. An account of the centennial anniversary of a Washington County lady carries the reader back to pioneer days. Although but four months old the *Historical Journal* has reached a good circulation and is rapidly

gaining a popularity among those who wish to see local history preserved. It is printed on heavy paper, in magazine form, and twelve numbers will make an illustrated bound volume of over 400 pages.

With its July issue the prosperous *Magazine of American History* began its eighteenth volume. A portrait of Henry Laurens, the South Carolina statesman of the Revolution, graces the opening page, accompanied by a realistic and engaging sketch of "Henry Laurens in the London Tower," from the editor. Gen. A. F. Devereaux follows with a spirited and thrilling account of "Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg." Justin Winsor, the Cambridge historian, contributes a valuable paper on "The Manuscript Sources of American History," in which he points out the conspicuous collections extant. John M. Bishop discourses authoritatively on the "United States Mail Service," giving some choice bits of information in its checkered history. No article in this number, however, will be read with more profit than Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart's "Biography of a River and Harbor Bill," a fragment of contemporary history, and yet a legitimate field for inquiry into past politics. George E. Foster gives the history of "Journalism Among the Cherokee Indians," a carefully written paper on a theme very little known to the reading public. William D. Kelley, Hon. Charles K. Tuckerman, James E. Deane, Walter Booth Adams, and others, contribute short stories. A new department appears, called "Historic and Social Jottings," which promises to be an agreeable feature of this admirably conducted publication. Price, \$5 a year. Published at 743 Broadway, N. Y. City.

From Bangor comes the *Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder*, a \$3 quarterly. It is of interest to every son of Maine who entertains a feeling of pride for his native State. S. M. Watson is the editor and publisher.

Although England has a magazine for local history in almost every shire, the only one that has reached the Record office is the *Western Antiquary*, or *Notebook for Devon, Cornwall and Somerset*. W. H. K. Wright, borough librarian of Plymouth, is the editor. It is published monthly at 7 shillings per annum and each issue comprises 24 pages. An interesting article gives an inventory of the house and furniture of an Exeter citizen in the reign of James I. The inventory contains no mention of crockery of any kind but there were 204 pounds of pewter articles and 50 ounces of silver plate. His library was limited to two bibles and other books aggregating in value 10 shillings. He was a well-to-do brewer and his death occurred in 1608.

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

JULY, 1887.

No. 11.

## "OLD MICHAEL."

Interesting Reminiscence of the Old Sexton and High Constable Who Rang the Curfew Bell and Terrorized Wilkes-Barre Boys Half a Century Ago.

John Michael Keinzle came from Switzerland about the year 1802, and was elected high constable of Wilkes-Barre in 1806, and held the office until his death in 1846. He was a small, active man, and the only thing high about him was his temper, and this only when exasperated by the bad boys of the town, by whom he was known and universally called "Old Pickle." Naturally he had a kind and tender heart, and was fond of little folks, so long as they behaved well. I can remember being one of a soldier company of which Ned Mallery was captain, and Ned Babb first lieutenant. Our guns were made in the carpenter shop of John P. Babb, of good wood, with a snap spring on the side, which answered our purpose, and were not dangerous. We used to parade on the Saturday half holiday, and generally on the river bank, near old Michael's residence, which was in the 'Arndt store house on the edge of the bank opposite Morgan's tavern. On these occasions Michael would frequently pass along our line as we were drawn up for review and give each of the boys a penny, which, to most of us, was considered quite a prize, and as Michael was a poor man, it showed the kindness of his heart toward us, which we never forgot. He was not only the constable of the town, but was also the sexton of the churches, and attended to the opening and lighting, cleaning, bell ringing, grave digging, tolling the bell for funerals, etc. A more faithful servant never had charge of the interests of a town. As a sexton of the churches, he had the lamps to keep clean and filled with whale oil. At the mid-week meetings he lighted the candles and attended to keeping them well snuffed. At the church he wore pump shoes, and moved about among the congregation silently with his snuffers reviving the lights at the time of singing, etc. On Sunday he sat in the gallery where he could watch the boys, and woe to any urchin who did not sit still or who made any noise. He rang the bell at 9 o'clock at night in the old Meeting House in the Public Square, as a notice to the mer-

chants to close up, and for all who were abroad to retire to their homes and go to bed, and this he did without pay and in all kinds of weather, and never failed to toll the day of the month after the ringing. He had a pound on the river bank, near his residence, and all cattle found at large at night were driven into it and kept there until the owner paid his fine and took them away. When a drunken man was found lying asleep Michael went for his wheelbarrow and putting the poor wretch on it wheeled him to the pound and then dumped him in among the cows and swine until he recovered his senses. In the winter when the deep snows would cover the coal-ash sidewalks, Michael would be up while the town was asleep and, with a snow-plow, drive along the walks and have all the snow off by the time the people got their eyes open; and this he did, as far as I know, without any compensation, except the pleasure of doing it for the good of the town. He had the only hay scales in the town at his home on the river bank, where by means of a beam to which were attached long chains which he fastened to the wheels of the wagons raising them and the hay clear of the ground and getting at the weight. He was the weigh master of the town and charged ten cents for the services. He was fearless when in discharge of his duty, and many a time he would make arrests and take the prisoner to the door of the jail, and then his goodness of heart would cause him to let the prisoner go after a good scare and the promise of reformation. This, of course, applied mostly to the boys of the town, when he was fortunate enough to catch them. As an example of his nerve, he at one time ascended the steeple of the old church and stood upon the small ball, 125 feet from the ground. If he found a cow daring enough to enter the church yard he would then show his temper, as he generally had to chase her several times around the church before he got rid of her, then he would swear in his broken Swiss until all was blue. Upon one occasion the writer rode up bare back on a horse to get a switch from the willow tree that stood in front of the Episcopal Church. In order to do this it became necessary to ride upon the sidewalk, which was contrary to law, and in reaching up with both hands, totally

unconscious of danger or harm. Michael, who was in the church, discovered me, and quietly coming up behind the horse, struck him a whack across the back with his sword-cane. The attack coming so unexpectedly, and being altogether unprepared for it, the horse sprang forward and came very near breaking my neck. As soon as I recovered my seat I looked back at "Old Pickle," who was swearing gloriously, for he had splintered and broken his cane, which afforded me gratification enough, and I laughed heartily, which only served to increase his wrath. I was wrong for laughing at him and am sorry now as I think of it that I did it. How well I remember standing by the graves he had digged and noticing his quite sympathetic ways as he dropped the dirt upon the coffin lid at the words "dust to dust, ashes to ashes," and when, as was the custom then, the bystanders, after the service, would throw in the dirt until Michael would say, "Dis will do shentlemens" after which he would remain and fill up the grave. I presume if all the reminiscences of "Old Michael" during his 40 years of service could be collected they would fill a volume. Notwithstanding his many engagements, he found time to cultivate a garden in the lot just below the residence of E. P. Darling, in which he cultivated besides vegetables a beautiful display of flowers. He lived entirely alone, having a room fitted up in the beforementioned store house. His death was occasioned by a fall down the stairs by which he reached his bedroom. He was discovered by accident, or he might have died where he fell, but when found he was carefully nursed until he died. An old man faithful to every trust, and vigilant in the discharge of every duty, he was buried in the old burying ground on Market Street, where he had assisted in laying away so many of the citizens young and old, of the town, and the bell which he had tolled so often for others now tolled for him. I do not remember that any stone marked his resting place; and I have often wondered whether any one now living could tell where his remains rest at present, since the removal of the dead to the new cemetery. If so, nothing could be more fitting than to erect some kind of a monument as a slight tribute to his unselfish fidelity and worth.—*Wilkes-Barre Telephone.*

#### A Monument to Old Michael.

In the RECORD of Tuesday, July 26, was an interesting article recalling Old Michael, Wilkes-Barre's sexton, and High Constable of half a century ago. In the article the suggestion was made that the admirers of

Old Michael raise a fund with which to erect a monument to his memory. The suggestion has drawn out a letter from a Wyalusing gentleman who attended school at the old Academy on Public Square, 50 odd years ago, to his brother, residing in this city, offering to contribute towards a suitable memorial. The RECORD will be pleased to publish similar offers from other sources, together with any reminiscences of the sturdy old sexton which may be at hand. The letter reads as follows:

Dear Brother: Yesterday's RECORD contains some reminiscences of "Old Michael," who served Wilkes-Barre so long and so unselfishly as High Constable and general sexton to the churches; and the suggestion is made that his grave may be unknown and unmarked. Feeling under some obligation to his memory, I would be willing to contribute to a suitable memorial for him. About 1832 there lived in the town an unfortunate "Jim Gridley," whom the boys used to delight in teasing when on his spree. I was attracted to the intersection of Market and Franklin Streets on one of these occasions, in which I participated as an outsider and onlooker. I was perhaps not as much on my guard as more active ones; and Old Michael caught and dosed me with the prescription "when taken, to be well shaken!" and the medicine was effective. I never assisted, even theoretically, in another "mill" of a drunkard.

The winter I boarded at Aunt B's, old Michael called one cold morning in regard to some question of church service, and Cousin Emily (Mrs. Wright) brought him a glass of wine. He may have expected some such recognition; and if he did, he deserved it. The boys who value his memory should speak out; as that memory ought to be perpetuated by a fitting memorial. G. H. W.  
Wyalusing, July 27, 1887.

#### The County Assessment.

The assessments from all the districts of Luzerne County have been returned to the office of the county commissioners and the totals footed up. The total number of taxables in the county is 54,598; value of seated lands \$8,225,647; value of building lots \$3,034,227; value of houses \$4,046,511; value of outbuildings and other improvements \$2,115,224; number of horses 13,577; value of horses \$368,962; number of cattle 8,924; value of cattle \$88,701; value of occupations \$2,502,281; number of stages, omnibuses, etc., 282; value of same \$9,880; total valuation of taxables for county purposes \$20,390,383.

## EARLY RAILROADING.

## The Objections it Had to Meet 60 Years Ago—Pronounced Visionary and Impracticable.

There is before us a copy of the *Lycoming Gazette* of August 24, 1825, which contains a six column article headed "Railways Inexpedient in Pennsylvania," in which the author, "H," argues strenuously in favor of canals, in preference to railway transportation, either by horse or by steam power. In his endeavor to show a railway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg to be impracticable, he quotes from a pamphlet on that subject, which says, "in the majority of instances, if the ascent be not greater than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet to the mile, hills offer no obstacles whatever to railways," the inference being that if a greater ascent should intervene that it would offer a serious obstacle. He regarded a horse railway as entirely inadequate to accommodate the local trade, locomotive power being regarded as out of the question. He says, "a bustle of business will always occur in the spring of the year, after farmers have thrashed their grain. In that season it will not be unusual for 15 or 20 individuals in the same village to wish to load their cars at the same time." He says a car will carry about two tons, and the presence of a hundred or more cars in a town at the same time would cause inextricable confusion among the patrons of the road.

Again he says, "as the advocates of the railroad system universally agree, that Pennsylvania cannot afford the expense of railway and locomotive engines, it is futile to expect that the great objects of speed, cheapness of transportation and general accommodation will be accomplished by means of horse power."

"The expense of constructing a road with four sets of rails—two for commodities and two for passengers, mails, etc., with a locomotive engine, would be extremely unprofitable to the State, were it even practicable."

In conclusion the cautious Mr. H. says: "Let the people of Pennsylvania then pursue the even tenor of their way—in accordance with their characteristic caution, and refuse to sanction by their adoption, a yet visionary scheme about which they know nothing."

It is but sixty-one years since the foregoing arguments against the introduction of railroads in our State were gravely put forth as unanswerable in favor of canals and against railroads as a means of transportation, the practicability of the latter being even doubted, when  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet to the mile ascending grade was regarded as the maximum for railroading purposes, and yet by the light of experience we now find that the highest mountain range offer little obstruc-

tion to the successful operating of railroads by steam, while  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ton cars have given place to gondolas of 25 tons burden, as we see long trains of coal laden cars of the largest capacity moving as if by magic up the steepest grades of our mountain systems. Who shall predict what the next half century may bring about by way of electrical motive power in this country? W. J.

## Peter Pence Again.

EDITOR RECORD: Allow me to communicate the following letter from John Q. Dice, Esq., of Wayne Station, Pa., which throws a little more light on Peter Pence, a sketch of whom was published your columns.

C. F. H.

WAYNE STATION, Pa., June 8, 1887.—DEAR SIR: Pence had but one son. He died about 1809 in Wayne Township, Northumberland County. That was before Lycoming or Clinton was organized. He was buried in Wayne Township, which now is Crawford Township, Clinton County.

He has three or four grand-children living in Crawford Township, who are well off, and can give a fair account of their grandfather. As I am well acquainted with them I hope to get a full history from them. I may be able in the near future to get hold of some old documents that may lead to a more correct statement than has yet been made. I have seen the place where he is buried. I also saw a book where he voted in 1802, '3 and '5 in Wayne township, Northumberland County. That was about the last voting he did. I am trying to get his age and then will give his whole history as near as I can. I also saw the place where Pence and Grove and others killed the Indians at the mouth of Grove's Run on the Sinnamahoning. Thirty years ago when we were running a railroad line the marks of their axes were still on the trees and that is why it was called Grove's Run. That is 48 miles west from Wayne. They went up that run six miles and came down another run and struck the river six miles west of the mouth of the Sinnamahoning Creek and that run is called Grove's Run. They then came down the West Branch River and returned to Northumberland without being molested.

JOHN Q. DICE,

[NOTE.—Mr. Dice is evidently mistaken in his statement that Peter Pence died in 1809, as the Legislature of Pennsylvania, March 10, 1810, passed a bill granting him an annuity which they certainly would not have done had he died the year before. The records at Harrisburg should show how this pension was paid him and when.—ED.]

**A Very Hot July.**

It has been said over and over again that the month of July just ended was hotter than any other July within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. This seems to be a mistake, at least it is so figured out by a Rwoonk man, who has examined the meteorological records made by Judge Dana, who has an outfit of Government instruments. From his tables it appears that July of the present year was not as hot as was July in 1883, by one degree. The reason that the former has created so much discomfort is that the humidity has been far above the common moisture. The rainfall for the month of July during the past six years has been as follows:

July 1882, rainfall 4.65 inches; rain fell on eight days; average of maximum temperature, 79½ degrees.

July 1883, rainfall 6.41 inches; rain fell on 14 days; average maximum temperature, 81.

July 1884, rainfall 4.59 inches; sixteen days; average maximum temperature, 77.

July 1885, rainfall 3.19 inches, nine days; average maximum temperature, 75¼.

July 1886, rainfall 3.92 inches, nine days; average maximum temperature, 77½.

July 1887, rainfall 9.53 inches, thirteen days; average maximum temperature, 80.

The maximum temperatures noted by Judge Dana are taken at 2 pm., and the showing for the several years is as follows:

July.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
1	77	80	84	69	77	88
2	71	89	86	63	71	90
3	70	76	81	69	81	87
4	60	94	83	71	86	85
5	60	94	84	81	88	78
6	78	88	78	85	88	72
7	80	86	65	71	89	86
8	81	68	62	88	82	83
9	82	76	69	88	80	76
10	82	81	79	78	75	72
11	86	82	84	72	78	78
12	84	84	84	78	78	84
13	79	81	80	78	76	85
14	78	88	68	77	70	80
15	78	83	74	79	78	75
16	88	88	73	86	75	90
17	82	78	70	81	80	86
18	79	77	79	85	78	79
19	80	76	80	89	75	77
20	82	78	78	93	74	72
21	76	80	73	84	66	66
22	77	87	81	90	74	78
23	83	74	87	85	78	75
24	85	70	82	87	76	73
25	85	79	79	79	73	83
26	86	88	80	81	72	81
27	88	85	68	83	72	81
28	88	80	78	80	78	84
29	78	78	64	79	83	84
30	81	78	78	80	82	85
31	79	79	78	79	79	84

The observations of Rev. Dr. Hodge, who also has Government instruments, probably come nearer to the degree of heat as experi-

enced under ordinary circumstances. His instruments are within a house—Government standard—built for the purpose, and are not protected by trees. On the other hand Judge Dana's thermometer hangs on a tree in his garden, more or less protected also, by a grape arbor, his maximum for July of the present year ranging four degrees below that of Dr. Hodge, the latter's being 87.8 degrees.

Dr. Hodge says that according to his instruments July was the hottest of any month during the 19 years he has been engaged in taking observations. There were 15 days on which the temperature reached 90 or over, a really remarkable continuity of heat. The highest temperature noted by Dr. Hodge was 99.1 degrees and the lowest was 57.5. Only once during the month, night or day, did the temperature fall below 60. The average maximum temperature was 87.8, the average minimum was 65.1 and the mean temperature for day and night was 75.3. Dr. Hodge says that September, 1881, was popularly styled the hottest month on record, but he was absent at that time and consequently has no observations:

Dr. Hodge kindly furnishes the following maximums and minimums for July, 1887:

July	Max.	Min.	July.	Max.	Min.
1	95.4	60	17	92	67.3
2	94.5	65.5	18	85.9	68.2
3	92	65.5	19	80	66.5
4	90	70	20	80.5	60.3
5	79	63.5	21	73.4	64.5
6	87.5	65.5	22	88	67.5
7	91.1	65.5	23	84	68.5
8	92	63	24	79.5	66.3
9	85.8	67	25	89.4	70.5
10	78.9	62.5	26	84.8	70
11	83.1	64	27	81	68
12	92.2	60.5	28	92	64.5
13	89.5	60	29	92.1	69
14	85.8	64.3	30	89.7	66.5
15	84	57.5	31	92.9	68
16	99.1	60.5			

It ought to be said, however, that the temperature in the average home is far higher than that in the observation house where Dr. Hodge's Government instruments are situated. From his minimum it would look as if the nights ought to be cool enough for comfort, but the fact is that a standard thermometer in the sleeping apartment of the writer indicated a minimum of 80 throughout the entire night on many dates, and never once went below 75. It is a pity we could not surround ourselves with the conditions which environ Dr. Hodge's instruments, hot as the latter show up.

The rainfall on Monday, Aug. 1, was phenomenal, the gauges of both Judge Dana and Dr. Hodge measuring an inch plus. It would be interesting to know what the rainfall was up Laurel Run.

## AN OLD-TIME TAVERN.

The Beverages with Which Our Grandfathers Used to Warm Their Insides in Winter and Cool Them in Summer.

The following description in the *Detroit Free Press*, of a tavern in the early part of the present century would probably apply more or less accurately to hostelrys elsewhere and we therefore reprint it:

In 1807 William Hodge, Sr., built an addition to his log house in Buffalo and established a tavern, about which his son, William Hodge, wrote thus: "This noble mansion consisted of two rooms on the lower floor, with a wide hall between them. It had battened doors, naked peeled beams and windows of 7 by 9 glass. The north room was used as a parlor, sitting room, main kitchen and dining room. The south room was the more public one. There the eye was caught by large black letters on an unpainted door, telling the visitors to 'Walk in,' and there too was the 'latch string,' hanging on the outer side of the door. This room also contained the bar, which was partitioned off in one corner.

"Under the shelves stood the whisky and cider barrels, and on them were the kegs of brandy, rum and gin, and one or two kinds of wine, as Madeira and Port. Maybe there was also there a keg of shrub or peppermint cordial, and occasionally one of metheglin. Sometimes, in the proper season, the bar would contain a barrel of spruce beer, home made of course. There was no lager beer in those days. The sugar box and money drawer were made to slide under the front counter board. The white sugar then used came in high, tapering, solid cakes called sugar loaves, done up in coarse brown or black paper. A few may yet be seen. The liquors sold at the bar were always measured out in the wine glass and gill cup, or in larger quantities if desired.

"Cider was sold by the pint or quart, red pepper being added; and in cold weather it was set upon coals and embers to heat. The mixed drinks sold at the bar were termed 'slings,' and were made of sugar, water and brandy, rum or gin, well stirred with the 'sugar stick.' Hot slings were made the same way, except that a hot iron was put in, to temper them, a slight sprinkling of nutmeg being regularly added. A 'sangaree' was made in the same way, using wine instead of the stronger liquors. Nearly all were as much in the habit of using these different kinds of liquors as beverages as people now are of using tea, coffee and even milk.

"The fireplace in the barroom and that in the north room were without 'jambs'—

the chimneys being built with split sticks and plastered. That in the north room was furnished with a 'trammel pole' and 'trammel' with hook to match, for hanging kettles, etc., over the fire. The hearths were made of stones gathered from the fields. The chamber rooms were used for sleeping purposes. An addition built on the east side of the barroom was used as a back kitchen and wash room. It had a sloping roof, being a 'lean to.' The fire place was built in one corner of it, and the chimney and hearth were of the same materials as those in the other rooms."

## Something About Sea Coal.

An article in this week's *Coal Trade Journal*, headed "What is sea coal?" says: "In the proposals of coal wanted for the Navy there is one peculiar requirement laid down in the list; it is for ten barrels of sea coal for the Norfolk Yard. What an ancient rut the Department must have fallen into to keep up such a name! In the days of old, when Beas was Queen of England, such a term might do to designate a quality of fuel, but hardly in the 19th century."

There seem to be a few things yet for the editor of the *Journal* to learn concerning the subject of coal in its various forms, when we discover that he does not know that "sea coal" is an article well known to sea faring men. But perhaps he has never sailed very far on blue water for the purpose of acquiring information, as that is not supposed to be exactly the place to look for coal, except it be on board vessels in transit to some seaport town. But if he had ever had the misfortune to have been shipwrecked anywhere on the sandy shores of the Gulf of Mexico, he would have noticed in his wanderings along the beach masses of a substance resembling anthracite coal, though not so hard, and of specific gravity considerably less, scattered here and there among these vast beds of sand. This is called in common nautical parlance of the Gulf coast "sea coal," as it is thrown up by the action of the water and comes from the bed of the ocean during the prevailing northers of the winter months. It is nothing more or less than solidified bitumen, or asphalt in its natural state. What its use is in ship building we are not informed, but it may be that it is used in a liquid form, applied hot, for coating iron in order to keep it from rusting, or it may be used as a stain to give a dark color to woodwork in some interior joiner work of vessels.

w. j.

#### The Legend of Lake Opelousa.

The prosaic and vulgar name for Lake Opelousa is South Pond, but even with this title it is not as well-known as its great natural beauty and situation deserves. A drive up Haulock Creek to Muhlenburg and two miles beyond will bring the tourist to this clear, lily-befringed pool, where it rests among low hills of forests and fields. Only the narrow and gingerly spirit of the present proprietor, it is claimed, prevents Lake Opelousa from surpassing, or at least equaling the other lakes of this vicinity as a popular summer resort. But a few summers can pass, nevertheless, before its healthy margin will be adorned by many summer cottages.

How much more poetical and appropriate is the Indian liquid name, Opelousa, than any English title which could be given to such a lake. The legend which gives it this name is one of the prettiest of Indian traditions. Opelousa, it is fabled, was a handsome maiden belonging to the Shawnee village, which was situated not far from the present site of Bloomingdale. She loved, with passionate devotion a promising young Shawnee brave, named Wassaileya, but he, however, did not reciprocate her affection, being the admirer and slave of a maiden of the Senecas, whom he met one day on a hunting expedition in the northern forests. The Seneca tribe resented the intrusion of the romantic Wassaileya, whose amorous perseverance finally led to a declaration of open war.

One of the battles or skirmishes took place in the woods bordering Lake Opelousa. The Shawnees were worsted that day, and Wassaileya, heroically though he had fought, had dragged himself, covered with wounds, to a secret hiding place in the woods. Here he was sought for and found by the faithful Opelousa. When she saw him she rushed forward to lay herself at his feet, but he, in the haste of misjudgment, conceiving that an enemy was approaching, directing an arrow, pierced her breast with a mortal wound. He heard her dying tale of devotion and forgiveness with consternation, for he had never guessed the truth before. The maid of the Senecas had proven false, but here was one who was the ideal of all his dreams, shattered by his own illfated hand.

The body of Opelousa, according to a rare custom, was set adrift upon the Lake in a birch canoe of great beauty. It floated for many days, but at length delivered its fair burden to the depths. In the same canoe, repaired by his own hands, Wassaileya, thin and haggard, was to be seen day and night eagerly scanning the waters for many weeks. To no one would he speak, and all passed him by with a fearful look. At length, on a cold autumn midnight, those who were near

and awake averred that they had heard a great shriek upon the Lake. Next morning Wassaileya's canoe floated upon the waves without its customary occupant. He had at length seen, either in person or in imagination, the form of Opelousa reclining upon the bottom of the Lake, and had leaped to embrace it in death.

Such is the story of Lake Opelousa, and who will again dare call it South Pond? Beautiful as the lakes themselves are these names and traditions. Then, for the double attraction, why should not Harvey's Lake be known by its Indian name, Skandara? Lake Winola, but a few brief years ago, was Breeches Pond. Who could return to that dull, prosaic name now? There is a flavor of woods and nature's pure air in these Indian accents. We would be but according the lakes their right by restoring to them their early names.

#### An Old Landmark Gone.

The old Myers house at Forty Fort was entirely destroyed by fire on Monday evening, June 20. The dwelling was unoccupied at the time. It is supposed that the fire was the work of incendiaries. The property was owned by Henry Myers and was one of the landmarks of the valley. The building was constructed of logs and was over 100 years old. If it had the power of speech it could tell some queer stories about the Red man and his antics.

#### Local Taxes Fifty Years Ago.

EDITOR RECORD: I find in looking over some old papers a duplicate for the county tax for the borough and township of Wilkes-Barre, which I collected for the year 1837, just fifty years ago, and to show the contrast I give you the figures. The whole amount of tax was \$973 33, which I presume is now paid by a single individual or coal company. The whole number of taxables was less than 500, and what at first seems almost incredible, there are only three of the number that I can find who are now living. They are Nathaniel Rutter, Andrew T. McClintock and myself. J. G. FELL.

Waverly, July 4, 1887.

#### A Coal Company's Big Tax.

In last week's RECORD was published a letter from J. G. Fell, of Waverly, who stated that the entire tax in Wilkes-Barre Borough and Township in 1837 was only \$973 33, Mr. Fell venturing the opinion that an amount equally large was now paid by a single individual or corporation. The RECORD is since informed by Real Estate Agent Reuben Downing that the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co. was assessed \$18,037.92 last year for the city of Wilkes-Barre alone—a tax 20 times that of the entire community 50 years ago.



## OUR CITY'S SIZE.

**The Census of the City Assessors Completed—Some Interesting Facts and Figures.**

On Dec. 1 of last year the city assessors, Dr. Sturdevant, Anning Dilley and John B. Quick, commenced the work of making a full and detailed census of the city by wards. Their work was finished on April 1st and many of the interesting facts and figures developed thereby are given below. It must be remembered, however, that the figures cannot show the exact population of the city to-day as there has been a very rapid growth since the work of the assessors began, some 8 months ago. The assessors believe that this growth will amount to about 4 per cent, which would make the total population to-day about 34,000.

The assessors find the area of the city to be about four square miles. The number of streets accepted by the city is 144 and their aggregate length 83 miles. Some of the details of population, etc., by wards, are as follows, the population, by the census of 1880 being given in each ward for comparison:

**First Ward**—Males 1,121, females 920, colored 78, total 2,117; total in 1880, 1,536; children of school age 592; buildings 824; manufactories 6; churches 3; school house 1.

**Second Ward**—Males 1,950, females 1,583, colored 0, total 3,513, total in 1880, 1,684; children of school age 985; buildings 552; manufactories 9; churches 2; school houses 3.

**Third Ward**—Males 1,465, females 1,360, colored 0, total 2,825, total in 1880 2,344; children of school age 832; buildings 473; manufactories 6; churches 0, school houses 0.

**Fourth Ward**—Males 584, females 735, colored 10, total 1,329, total in 1880, 1,301; children of school age 321; buildings 244; manufactories 4; churches 1; school houses 0.

**Fifth Ward**—Males 976, females 913, colored 80, total 1,969, total in 1880, 1,430; children of school age 426; buildings 341; manufactories 17; churches 0; school houses 1.

**Sixth Ward**—Males 1073, females 1118, colored 26, total 2,217, total in 1880, 2,110;\* children of school age 706; buildings 387; manufactories 1; churches 4; school houses 1.

**Seventh Ward**—Males 461, females 647, colored 13, total 1,121, total in 1880 1,070; children of school age 229; buildings 230; manufactories 3; churches 3; school houses none.

**Eighth Ward**—Males 954, females 1123, colored 50, total 2,132, total in 1880 1850;

children of school age 417; buildings 382; manufactories 9; churches 4; school houses none.

**Ninth Ward**—Males 586, females 546, colored none, total 1132, total in 1880 2,110\*; children of school age 345; buildings 206; manufactories none, churches 4; school houses 1.

**Tenth Ward**—Males 628, females 821, colored 71, total 1520, total in 1880 1330; children of school age 377; buildings 281; manufactories 1; churches 2; school houses none.

**Eleventh Ward**.—Males 1117, females 1114, colored 88, total 2319, total in 1880 1925; children of school age 601; buildings 319; manufactories 8; churches 3; school houses 2.

**Twelfth Ward**.—Males 760, females 831, colored 23, total 1614, total in 1880 1152; children of school age 485; buildings 821; manufactories 0; churches 1; school houses 1.

**Thirteenth Ward**.—Males 1420, females 1613, colored 74, total 3107, total in 1880 1728; children of school age 979; buildings 583; manufactories 2; churches 1; school houses 2.

**Fourteenth Ward**—Males 1,992, females 1,813, colored 15, total 3,891, total in 1880 2,974; children of school age 1,089; buildings 689; manufactories 1; churches 2; school houses 2.

**Fifteenth Ward**—Males 596, females 975, colored 23, total 1,296, total in 1880, 896; children of school age 426; buildings 244; manufactories 4; churches 2; school houses 1.

In 1880 the Sixth and Ninth Wards were taken together.

\*Grand total for city—Males 15,683, females 15,868, colored 551, total 32,122, total in 1880, 23,309; children of school age 8,810; buildings 5,678; manufactories 74; churches 34; school houses 14.

John Franklin.

From Kline's *Carlisle Gazette* for Wednesday, Oct. 3, 1787, Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries* in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* prints the following:

"We hear from Wilkesburg, [Wilkes-Barre] in the county of Luzerne, that a court was held their last week in the most peaceful manner. Two bills, it is said, were found against John Franklin for riot and trespass, and for assault and battery. This incendiary, we are told, has retreated to Tioga, where he is stimulating a body of vagrants to commit fresh acts of rebellion and treason against the government of Pennsylvania."

### Two Preachers of Former Times.

Among the able and faithful ministers of the gospel who inhabit this region of country, says the *Carbondale Leader*, there are now two who from circumstances are quite prominent. We refer to Rev. W. K. Mott, of the Baptist, and Rev. N. G. Parke, of the Presbyterian Church. The former has recently contributed to the local church history some reminiscences of his work reaching back a period of fifty-five years, while the latter has just preached his forty third anniversary sermon.

No part of the early history of this region is more interesting than that relating to the progress of religious bodies, and nothing has made greater progress than the cause which, after all, lies at the foundation of true prosperity. In view of this fact we feel justified in giving up the space required to publish some of this history:

Elder Mott was licensed to preach at Middletown, Susquehanna County, in March, 1832. Rev. J. B. Parker, a missionary of the New York Baptist convention having come into Northeastern Pennsylvania as a general missionary, W. K. Mott started with him on a missionary tour. Their method of travel was on horseback. From Middletown they first went to Laceyville, thence down the Susquehanna to Mehoopany, Tunkhannock, Exeter, Northmoreland and Wilkes-Barre. At all these places meetings were held. From thence they traveled to Plymouth, called at that time Shawnee, Nanticoke, Hunlock's Creek, and held meetings. Two other missionaries came into the Wyoming Valley about this time, Revs Charles Morton and Philip P. Brown. The latter located at Pittston. In August, 1833, at the Bridgewater Association in the church at Laceyville, Rev. W. K. Mott was ordained to the gospel ministry. He soon entered the Lackawanna Valley and began preaching. After three years of labor in this extensive field many of his people moved out west of Chicago. They desired him to go along but instead he removed to Hyde Park and took up his residence there April 15, 1837. It contained then just twenty families and only three members of a Baptist Church. His preaching stations were Pittston, Hyde Park, Providence, Blakely and Greenfield, and for a time he was the only minister in all this valley. From Pittston to Blakely he visited in two years every family on the route and the population was less than 2,000. On the east side of the Lackawanna, where Soranton is, was only a saw and grist mill and the Slocum house. There was a plank foot bridge across the river at Dodgetown, and to get across the river where Lackawan-

na Avenue now is he took off his shoes and stockings and waded across. He then went up to the saw mill and got some lumber to build a barn. He found a man to haul it, and as they were fording the river at Dodgetown he sat on the load and said to Mr. Atherton, who was driving, "These side hills and this valley will yet be covered by a great city." He has lived to see his prophecy fulfilled. August 23, 1849, the First Baptist church of Soranton was organized under his ministry. This is now located on Soranton Street. His account of meetings and his "valley experiences," as he called them, were thrilling. His references to praying loud as he went along the road through the then wilderness, were very touching. His toils and sacrifices were truly heroic, and to him is really due the first permanent establishment of Baptist worship in Soranton. On one occasion he lost his horse and had to go to his appointment "on his feet," as he quaintly expressed it. Elder Mott has attended over 1,000 funerals, all the way from Wilkes-Barre to Carbondale, of persons who have been buried in 75 different grave yards. He has married over 300 couples and baptized several hundred converts. He paid a good tribute to Elder John Miller, the old pastor who settled in Waverly in 1800, for his noble endeavors for Christ. All through this and the adjoining valleys are many houses where the name Elder Mott is a household word. He has preached in all the other churches herabouts and has been the pastor of many of them.

Dr. Parke was the pioneer preacher for the Presbyterians in all the territory between Carbondale and Wilkes-Barre. In his recent anniversary sermon he says:

When I first preached in Pittston on the second Sabbath of June, 1844, there were not to exceed, in the valleys between Nanticoke and Carbondale, aside from Wilkes-Barre and Kingston, fifty members of the Presbyterian Church. There are now from eight to ten thousand.

Rev. John Dorrance, D. D., and Rev. E. Hazard Snowden were the only settled Presbyterian ministers in the valley. Now we have twenty-five.

There was not a Presbyterian house of worship, and only two or three of any kind, between Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale. There was a tradition of an attempt about the year 1840 to erect a Presbyterian Church in Providence. When the frame of the building was way up it was blown down in a thunder storm, and the enterprise was abandoned. There are now in the two valleys more than twenty-five Presbyterian spires pointing to the sky.

The property controlled by the Presbyterian Church in these valleys, all told,

could not have exceeded in value \$10,000. Her property now exceeds in value \$300,000.

Wilkes-Barre was the only self-sustaining church in our connection in the valley, and all she engaged to pay her pastor, Dr. Dorrance, was \$500. The church of Carbondale, which belonged to the new school branch of the church and was cared for by the Rev. Mr. Allen, may have been a self-supporting church. The amount reported to the General Assembly last year by the Presbytery of Lackawanna in maintaining the ordinances of God's house was \$124,552. Not all of this but a large portion of it was paid by the churches of the two valleys. The contributions of these churches to other benevolent objects during the year amount to nearly \$50,000.

There were Sabbath-schools in the valleys in 1844, but this agency was then in its infancy. The Presbyterian Church had not fairly entered on this work. Last year our Sabbath-schools reported 12,892 scholars.

#### Centennial of the Constitution.

The RECORD is in receipt of several circulars relative to the centennial celebration of the framing and promulgation of the Constitution of the United States, which will take place at Philadelphia, on the 15th, 16th and 17th of September next. One gives the correspondence between the Constitutional Centennial Commission and Col. A. Loudon Snowden, appointing him marshal and his acceptance. Col. Snowden accepts "as a public duty, and from a conviction that we confidently rely upon the cordial and earnest support of our patriotic and public spirited citizens, in the effort to properly commemorate the establishment of Constitutional Government on this continent, which is esteemed by many thoughtful men not to be second in its beneficent results to the great Declaration itself."

An appeal is made to those engaged in the various branches of business and industries throughout the Union, which have been developed under the guarantees and safeguards of the constitution to assist in making the processional display, as far as possible, a suggestive presentation of the marvelous advance made within the past one hundred years in the arts of peace. As the circular says, this demonstration should be made worthy of our country and the great event to be commemorated.

J. W. Hofmann, Chief of Staff, desires that those intending to participate, will send information as to the probable number of men, horses and carriages they will bring; and the character of the display intended to be made, at the earliest date possible. The

office of the marshal and chief of staff is at City Hall.

The governors of the several States have been invited to co-operate, the following being some extracts from the circular of invitation:

I need not remind you that is of the highest importance that this celebration should not alone illustrate our moral, intellectual and material progress within the past hundred years, but that it should be made so imposing as to leave an indelible impression on the minds of our people, particularly upon the youth of our land, as to the paramount importance of upholding and guarding the Constitution as the sheet anchor of our liberties and the bulwark of our prosperities and happiness of our people.

It devolves upon us in the coming celebration to illustrate, as far as possible, in the processional display, the marvelous material and industrial advance which has been made under the benign influence of the Constitution. It is a celebration in which all should participate. To assure success will require generous and cordial co-operation, and upon this I confidently rely.

Without presuming to indicate a plan for your guidance I may say that it has been suggested that your Excellency appoint a committee to which shall be assigned the duty of directing the attention of your citizens to the subject, and the organizing your industries for participation in the demonstration, which it is proposed to make, if possible, the most imposing of the kind ever witnessed on this continent.

#### Susquehanna County Centennial.

Susquehanna County is a hundred years old. It is not absolutely certain where the first rude log cabin was erected by the white man but it is certain that commencements were made in old Willingboro, Brooklyn and Harmony in the year 1787. The largest and most noted of these settlements was undoubtedly at Great Bend. This was also the principal point of Indian occupancy in Susquehanna County. There was a small Tuscarora village opposite the Salt Lick on the Great Bend side of the river. The old village of Great Bend was on the Hallstead side of the river. "A. B." writes as above in the *Monroese Republican*. In the same paper, Miss Emily C. Blackman, the historian of the county says:

The townships settled in 1787, and consequently most nearly interested,—Great Bend, Harmony, and Brooklyn—might easily secure much of value to make a public demonstration successful, the whole county joining with them in contributions to the early history and to the exhibition of its store of relics. Of these townships it is barely possible the last mentioned should be

placed first in order of settlement, by a few months; but this can be ascertained only in one way, so far as I can see, viz: By finding a record of the deed given "at the end of the first year," by John Nicholson, Comptroller of Pennsylvania, to his cousin, Mrs. Adam Miller, who with her husband came to the Hopbottom lands in 1787. This would determine the *season* of their coming—spring or fall; if the former, it would give almost certain precedence to Brooklyn, since what we know of the settlement on the Susquehanna is, that in the fall of that year, two families at least *were there*. Of course they may have been there months before. The earliest deed of land in Susquehanna County on record in the deeds books of Luzerne County is that of Tench Francis to Ozias Strong for land north of the river at Great Bend; but, two days later, Benajah Strong bought of Francis 600 acres south of the river, on both sides of the Salt Lick. The latter was sold a little more than a year later to Minna Du Bois and another party, and, for a half a century, this side of the river was the better settled. Correspondence with descendants of the Strongs, who may, possibly, be found at Homer and Lansingville, New York, would doubtless add to information respecting life at "The Bend" in 1787. Except for my weakened eyes it would be a delight to follow up such clues as I have; as it is, I can only express my most hearty sympathy with the movement already inaugurated, and commend it urgently to all whose interest in the compilation of the county annals was so cheering to me years ago. In any case, the Hallstead side of the river at Great Bend seems the most desirable place at which to celebrate the county's centennial."

The matter has already been taken in hand by citizens of the county at a public meeting and a committee has been appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

Captain John Fries.

The following is from Gen. W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Bucks Co., Pa., in reply to an inquiry concerning the Fries Rebellion. He says:

"John Fries was a native of Hatfield Township, Montgomery Co., from about 1750, and married Mary Brunner, of Whitmarsh, at twenty. Five years afterward he removed to Milford Township, Bucks Co., where he spent his life. He died about 1820. Fries was a soldier of the Revolution. In 1860 I wrote the 'History of the Milford Rebellion,' but it was never printed in book form.

W. W. H. DAVIS."

June 1, 1897.

"Histoire de la Pensylvanie."

Hon. Stenben Jenkins, of Wyoming, has a rare history of Pennsylvania 119 years old with the following title page:

Histoire  
Naturelle Et Politique  
De la  
Pensylvanie,  
Et

De l'établissement  
Des Quakers

Dana Cette Contree.

Traduite de l'Allemand.

P. M. D. S. Censeur Royal

Precedee d'une Carte Geographique.

\*  
A Paris.

Chez Geneau, Libraire, Rue S. Severin.

Anz Armes de Dombea.

M.DCC.LXVIII.

Avec Approbation & Privilège du Roi.

Mr. Jenkins has the following to say of the old history in *Notes and Queries* (Harrisburg):

This book was originally written and published in German about 1756 and subsequently was translated and published in French in 1768. (Referred to in *Notes and Queries* historical, vol. 1, p. 581.) It was thought to have been written for the purpose of staying the tide of migration to this country from Germany, and was translated and published in France for the same purpose. It gives a somewhat gloomy view of the situation of affairs in this country for the foreign emigrant, especially of the German portion, who came without means and were sold to pay the expense of the voyage. The writer was Gottlieb Von Mittelberger, and it was translated into French by M. Rousset de Sursey.

The author commences as follows:

"I departed in the month of May, 1750, from Enzweyningen, my country, in the bailiwick of Vaihingen, and went to Hailbroun, where I found an organ destined for Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania. I took charge of it and embarked myself on the Rhine for Rotterdam. From there I went to Kaupp, in England, on a vessel which transported to America about 400 persons from Germany, from the Cantons of Wirtemberg, from Dourlach, from the Palatinat and from Switzerland. After nine days in port, we spread our sails, and in fine landed on the 10th of October, 1750, at Philadelphia, the capital of Pennsylvania."

He exaggerates the length and hardships of the voyage, making the distance 1,700 leagues, and the time six months. He particularly descants upon the foul air in the vessels, the diseases engendered, want of care and proper food, etc., which renders those diseases more virulent and fatal, and

in every way seeks to make a sea voyage from Germany a terror to his readers.

He concludes his discussion of these points by the following reflection:

"Happy, if this recital will open the eyes of the people of Germany, and bring the Princes and Lords of the Empire to close the entry of their Ports to these odious traffickers in men, whose labors tend only to depopulate that country."

He gives the following cost of a passage: Every person above ten years of age, from Rotterdam to Philadelphia, 60 florins of Holland, or 68 livres of France. From 5 to 10,  $\frac{1}{2}$  passage or 80 florins. Below 5 years the children pay nothing, but they pay enough for this passage gratis, as the bad weather they get costs the life of the greater number.

#### Mrs. Laura Downing Dead.

The death of a long time resident of the valley, Mrs. Laura Downing, aged 86 years, occurred on Monday, July 18, at Larksville, Plymouth Township. Mrs. Downing had been ill but one day, her death being entirely unexpected by her friends who had seen her in apparent health but a few days ago.

Mrs. Downing was of staunch Wyoming stock, her father, Samuel Carey, having been captured at the massacre in 1778 and held a prisoner by the Indians for 8 years. Owing to his great skill with the rifle Carey was not massacred as were many prisoners, and though he went through severe tortures of which he often spoke afterwards, he was liberated by the Indians in 1784, as a reward for his utility to them in the hunt. He then came to Plains, married and raised a family of children, dying at the ripe age of 80 years.

His daughter Laura married Martin Downing, third son of Reuben Downing who came to this valley from Connecticut with the Slocum family early in the settlement of the Wyoming region and lived in a log house on Main Street, where now is the Christel Block. Martin Downing died many years ago. Mrs. Laura Downing was the mother of Bradley Downing of Pittston, who has for more than 20 years been connected with the Pennsylvania Coal Co. She lived all but the last ten years of her life in Plains and Wilkes-Barre, passing her last days on a farm in Plymouth Township for which she had exchanged property in Plains. She raised a family of children, four of whom survive her, two sons and two daughters, the youngest a son aged 62 years.

She is survived by an older sister, Mrs. Sarah Williams, of Plains, now 90 years of

age. A brother also lived to be 90, the family showing remarkable vitality.

Mrs. Downing was for years a communicant of the M. E. Church and was a woman of strong Christian character. The funeral took place on July 20 at 2 pm., with interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

The union of the Carey and Downing families was remarkably close in the last generation. Reuben Downing had four sons and two daughters, Bateman, Arnold, Martin, Elias, Sarepta and Ann. Of these, Martin married Laura Carey, Bateman married a daughter of Benjamin Carey and Ann married George Carey, the last of Huntington Township. Sarepta married Jonas Hartzell, of Hanover. Elias married Jane Dana.

Bateman was the father of the present Reuben Downing, was born in 1795 and when 18 years of age acted as drummer boy with the recruiting officers for the War of 1812. He was twice treasurer of Luzerne County, took the census of 1840, which is still on file in the commissioners' office, and for 40 years was a justice of the peace in Hanover.

#### Mrs. Margaret Roderick Dead.

The death of Mrs. Margaret Roberts Roderick occurred July 24 quite suddenly at the residence of her sister Mrs. B. Armstrong, on North Franklin Street. Mrs. Roderick had been ill for the last three months, having been attacked with what was believed to be malarial fever at her brother's home in Lake Forest, a suburb of Chicago. She was treated there for malaria but appeared to get no better, and ten days' ago, hoping that a change of scene and air would work an improvement, she came to Wilkes-Barre.

Deceased was born in Aberystwyth, South Wales, in 1837 and came to America about 10 years later. In 1850 she became the wife of the late John Roderick, whose death occurred 7 years ago, while his wife was in midocean, on her way to Europe. He was for a time a dry goods merchant and later a druggist, being located in the building now occupied by Lincoln's pharmacy.

Mr. and Mrs. Roderick had no children. After her husband's death Mrs. Roderick made her home with her brother, Rev. Dr. Wm. C. Roberts, president of the Northwestern University, at Lake Forest, spending much of her time, however, with her sister, Mrs. Armstrong, of this city. Mrs. Roderick leaves also another brother, David E. Roberts, superintendent of the Ferrel Engine Works, of Ansonia, Conn., father of Miss Fannie Roberts who is a frequent guest of her aunt in this city.

**An Aged Lady's Death.**

Mrs. Nancy N. Wright, of Salem, Wayne Co., died on Monday morning, July 18, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. G. W. Simons, with whom she had lived for many years. She had been in poor health for the last 25 years, but was not confined to her bed until a fortnight ago, when pleurisy developed, probably the result of an attack of pneumonia passed through last winter, leaving her system much weakened. Mrs. Wright was a patient sufferer and retained her faculties up to the last day. She was a member of the Salem Presbyterian Church in whose communion she lived for 65 years and in the comfort of whose doctrines she fearlessly faced the destroyer, passing away without a struggle, at the advanced age of 85 years.

Mrs. Wright was born in Connecticut March 15, 1802, and was the daughter of Seth and Polly Grover Goodrich. Her father removed to Salem in 1804, when Wayne County was almost entirely a wilderness. He built a home at Little Meadows, which was on the traveled road from the Delaware River to Wyoming Valley, and therefore a point well known to travelers of that early day.

Deceased married Zenas Nicholson, March 15, 1819, at Salem and became the mother of ten children, of them are now living Mrs. Mary E. Leonard, Emeline G., wife of G. W. Simons, of Salem; J. Milton Nicholson, of Kingston, Oscar F. Nicholson, E. q., of Wilkes-Barre, and Amelia A., wife of Rev. S. M. Bronson, of Evansville, Minn.

Of the deceased children G. Byron Nicholson, Esq., of the Luzerne Bar, was a son; another was Lyman R., also a Wilkes-Barre lawyer, who lost his life at the battle of Gettysburg, he being temporarily in command of Co. B. 143d Regiment, P. V.; still another son, was Seth G., who was in the mercantile business in Wayne Co. A stepson was Horatio W., also a Wilkes-Barre lawyer, whose death occurred before the war.

Her husband having died in 1852, she two years later married Erastus Wright, M. D., a prominent physician of Wayne County, his death occurring in 1860.

Mrs. Wright was gifted with an excellent memory, which made her society most attractive at all times. All the events in her own life as also those in the lives of her children and their children were ever fresh to her recollection. Unlike some aged people she did not live entirely in the past but was absorbed in all the duties and pleasures of the present, she finding an unflinching spring of happiness in the company of those who called her mother, grand-mother and great-grand-mother, there being several of

the latter. In the details of the life of all of these her memory was remarkable.

Mrs. Wright was one of nature's true nobility. As a wife, and a mother, she loved and was loved. In her character were interwoven all the graces which give loveliness to human life and in her daily walk and conversation she exemplified the christian principles which she earnestly, though not ostentatiously, professed. In her death not only her immediate family circle mourn but their grief is shared by the entire community in which she lived and by all who came in contact with her.

On the occasion of her 85th birthday, in March last, a family reunion was held in Salem, at which there was a large and happy gathering. If there was any dimming of her faculties then it was not noticeable and few thought the anniversary would be her last, in such good health was she.

P. G. Goodrich, of Bethany, Wayne Co., author of the "History of Wayne County," is a brother of deceased.

Dr. H. Hollister, of Providence, author of the "History of Lackawanna County" is a nephew of the deceased, his mother having been a sister.

**DEATH OF GEORGE WORRALL.**

**A Former Wilkes-Barrean Who Helped to Build Elmira Passes Away.**

George Worrall, a resident of Elmira for many years, died at his home in that city on Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock. He had been sick about six months, although not confined to his bed until the Monday previous. Death resulted from Bright's disease. Mr. Worrall was born sixty-three years ago in Wilkes-Barre, and spent the last thirty two years of his life in a continuous residence in Elmira. He was always an active and intelligent business man. At different times in his business career he had been associated with the Nobles Manufacturing Co. and with the company that operated the woolen mills. But he was chiefly known as a successful coal dealer. He brought the first cargo of Pittston coal to Elmira in a canal boat on the once prosperous Chemung Canal, and was the first to introduce the product of the Pittston mines into Rochester and other cities.

In political life Mr. Worrall was not unknown, serving several terms as member of the Common Council and Board of Supervisors. These trusts were discharged to the credit of himself and the satisfaction of his constituents in the Third Ward. He was a member of St. Omer's Commandery and was connected with Grace Episcopal Church.

The family consists of a wife, two sons, James L. Worrall, of Elmira, and George H. Worrall, of Rochester, and two daughters,

Mrs. W. L. Raeder and Mrs. L. B. Landmesser, of Wilkes-Barre. The funeral will be held from the residence, 511 William Street, Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.—*Elmira Advertiser, July 29.*

#### Death of John K Woodward.

About 5:30 am. August 16, John K. Woodward died at the Luzerne House after a long and painful illness of rheumatism. The news of his death was no surprise, it having been known for some little time past that the end could not be averted much longer. He had suffered for many years from his malady, which nearly 10 years ago incapacitated him from any further active business life.

He was born in this city 43 years ago, being the fourth son of the late Chief Justice Woodward. He had resided all his life in this vicinity except during the time he was a student in Kenyon College at Gambier, O., from which institution he graduated in 1865. For a year or two subsequent to this date he lived at Pittston, where he was engaged in the book business, and later he occupied a position in the telegraph department of the L. V. R.R. Co., which he was compelled by ill health to resign. From that time he took no further active share in business life. He visited many of the well-known health resorts, in the hope of eradicating the disease from which he suffered, but without gaining anything but very temporary relief. He had suffered greatly at intervals during the past ten years, and the last attack, which prostrated him some months ago, defied all the efforts of his physicians.

His death will be sincerely mourned by a very large circle of friends, to whom the many fine and noble traits of character had endeared him. His disposition was singularly attractive. Despite the suffering which his disease entailed, he was always cheerful, and displayed in battling with the ravages of his malady a power of endurance and a calm heroism which is not frequently met with. His intellect was a polished and well balanced one, his judgment in all matters of business and social life, sound. He was always a lover of music in all its forms and was a vocalist of no ordinary ability. For many years he led the choir of St. Stephen's Church.

He never married and is survived by three brothers, Judge Stanley Woodward, Col. George A. Woodward, of the U. S. A., and Charles F. Woodward, of Philadelphia, and one sister, Mrs. E. Greenough Scott. Two other sisters, Mrs. J. Pryor Williamson and Mrs. E. A. Hancock, are now dead. The

funeral took place Thursday at 4 pm. from the residence of Judge Woodward on River Street.

#### THE FUNERAL.

All that was mortal of the late John K. Woodward was laid to rest in mother earth Thursday, August 18. The interment was made in the Woodward family plot at Hollenback Cemetery. Shortly after three o'clock the friends of deceased and representative citizens wended their way to Judge Woodward's mansion on River Street, where the body lay in state, in a beautiful black cloth covered casket, lined with satin and with heavy mountings of oxydized silver. The features were a little worn, but very life-like. At four o'clock the religious services began, Rev. H. E. Hayden, of this city, assisted by Rev. D. Webster Coxe, of Pittston, officiating. Rev. Mr. Coxe was a class mate of deceased at Kenyon College, and it was therefore very appropriate that he should be selected to officiate.

Rev. H. E. Hayden then read the funeral services of the Episcopal Church and Miss Cornelia Hillman, Mrs. John Thomas, Frank Puckey and John Thomas sang Mr. Woodward's favorite hymn, the opening verse of which is as follows:

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Utter'd or unexpress'd;  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.

The remains were then turned over to the pall bearers: John McGahren, Esq., W. H. Clark, B. F. Myers, John S. Cramer, Frank Puckey and John Hughes.

The funeral cortege was a large one and it was 5:30 before the cemetery was reached. Rev. Mr. Coxe recited the last prayer and pronounced the benediction.

The floral offerings were handsome. The Luzerne House Quartet—Messrs. McGahren, Bachman and Clark—Mr. Woodward himself having been a member—sent a pillow with a measure of a staff of music in the centre and the musical sign for "Rest," a little lower down. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler of the Luzerne House contributed a beautiful cross and other friends a large wreath.

#### Death of Mrs. Eliza Pryor.

About 5 o'clock Sunday, August 21, Mrs. Eliza M. Pryor, widow of the late William Pryor, died at her residence, 41 Hanover Street, aged 81 years, of general debility consequent on old age. She was born in Northampton County, and was the daughter of Thomas Quick who lived to be 99 years of age. She was an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church and highly esteemed by all who knew her. She leaves three adult children, Sarah, James M. and Thomas

Pryor. She was a sister of Thomas Quick, of South Wilkes-Barre, and is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Avery Hurlbut. The funeral took place on Tuesday at 4 pm. from her late home with interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Death of Mr. Dowling.

Edward F. Dowling, of Hazleton, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, died in Butler Valley on Sunday, Aug. 14 at the home of his wife's mother, Mrs. Silas Jacobs, whither he had gone a month ago in the last stages of pulmonary consumption. Mr. Dowling was graduated from Girard College, Philadelphia in 1870, since which time he principally devoted himself to school teaching, taking an active interest, however, in local politics and engaging later in journalism. He was considered one of the ablest instructors the Hazleton region ever had, County Superintendent Coughlin abundantly testifying to his worth and energy. About three years ago he married Miss Mary Jacobs, the daughter of a well-to-do farmer in the Butler and Conyngham Valleys, the result of the union being a daughter; who with the mother, survive. The *Sentinel* thus speaks of him:

Probably there were few persons any better known in Luzerne County or in the Lehigh region than he, and there were none perhaps had a larger circle of acquaintances who were friends in all that friendship defines.

After graduating from Girard College he commenced the occupation of school teaching in Wilkes-Barre where he followed it successfully until the fall of 1880 when he accepted a similar position in Butler. In Wilkes-Barre he made a brilliant record as an educator and those who were associated with him during those years testify to the correctness of this in the most eulogistic terms.

He taught but one year in Butler and when the Hazle Township School Board met to appoint teachers for the school year commencing in September, 1882, he was appointed to the principalship of the Stockton school on the splendid record he possessed as an educator. To the school board and the parents of pupils at Stockton he gave entire satisfaction, and from here he was transferred to the principalship of the Hazleton Mines school and here he successfully accomplished the management of a school, the pupils of which are to-day some of the best teachers in the public schools of this section. His was one of the brightest minds in Hazle Township institute and it is questionable whether his peer existed in that body. He was a ready debater, prompt and careful at all times, he had an extraordinary use of the English

language and never failed to call it into requisition when an occasion so demanded.

In the spring of 1888 he retired from the profession of school teaching for that of journalism, and with P. O. Kauffman, Esq., and Wm. H. Zeller purchased the *Sentinel* of C. B. Snyder. Last winter he was taken seriously ill and went South to recuperate, but the climate afforded him little relief and he returned. Since then he was unable to do any active labor. He continued his interest in the *Sentinel* until it was purchased by the present firm. He was the Hazleton correspondent of the *Elmira Telegram* and his productions were eagerly sought and widely read. As a journalist he had but few equals in this section. He was distinguished for qualities that excite admiration among the fraternity, fearless and independent, expressing a vigorous opinion at all times. He was aged thirty years. The funeral takes place Tuesday at 2 pm. Interment in Seybertsville cemetery.

#### Senator Williams' Mother Dead.

Mrs. Rachel Theophilus, the mother of Senator Morgan B. Williams, died at Nanticoke on Friday, August 19, after an illness of about one month. She was born in Rhandirmwyn, Carmarthenshire, South Wales, in 1811, and was consequently 76 years of age. Mrs. Theophilus was twice married, and was the mother of nine children, eight by her first and one by her second husband. She has been a widow for thirty years. Her surviving children by the first husband, William Williams, whom she married in 1828, are Senator M. B. Williams, of this city; Daniel Williams, a contractor and builder at Scranton; a sister who resides in Somersetshire, England; William J. P. Williams, formerly of this city, but now of Neutral Strip, New Mexico; Mrs. David W. Evans, of Nanticoke, with whom Mrs. Theophilus lived. Timothy Theophilus is the only child by the second marriage, and is a tunnel contractor, living in this city, but is now on a visit to Wales. His father was William Theophilus and he married deceased in 1841.

Mrs. Theophilus had the advantage of having an early religious training, and had been from childhood connected with religious organizations. At the time of her death she was a member in good standing in the Welsh Presbyterian Church in this city. During her entire life in Wales she resided in the same house in Pentwyn for a period of fifty-five years. Since she came to this city from Wales about five years ago she has not been in good health, and during the last three years had been obliged to keep in the house except in pleasant weather. The interment was in Hollenback cemetery on Monday.



**An Old Citizen's Death.**

Mr. Richard Anthony the pioneer iron fence builder of this district died Thursday Aug. 25 aged 78 years. He was a native of Monmouthshire England, and came to this country some 25 years ago settling first in Scranton and subsequently in this city. He had been engaged all his life in iron working and his devices and improvements in the manufacture of iron rails have been specially valuable. During his active career in this country he was a prolific patentee of railway chairs, fence posts, wheels, bedsteads and etc. One patent especially attracted attention for placing a steel cap on old iron rails, but unfortunately the Bessemer process came out soon after, reducing the cost of steel rails, and the patent was dropped.

He achieved a great success in iron fence building and his styles and methods of manufacture are now the standard of all fence makers. The Eagle Iron Works is the outcome of his planting and of which his son Edward is the active superintendent. General in manner, charitable to a fault in disposition, he passed away amid the grief of his children and with the respect of a large circle of fellow citizens.

**Mrs. S. S. Weller Dead.**

On Monday morning, August 8, Rebekah E., wife of S. S. Weller, died at the residence of her sister, Mrs. William Tuck, 78 North Franklin Street, where she and her husband have been living for some time. She had not been in very good health for some weeks and on Sunday morning was stricken with paralysis and though she seemed at first to rally to some extent she became worse during Monday and rapidly sank into her last sleep.

She was 49 years of age, having been born in Holidaysburg, Blair County, March 17, 1838. She was a woman active in all works of charity and religion. She was a prominent member of the First Presbyterian Church, one of the managers of the Home for Friendless Children and connected with other charitable associations. She leaves no children, but is survived by her mother, Mrs. Dean, her sister and two brothers.

**Death of A. M. Jeffords.**

Shortly after 10 o'clock Wednesday, Aug. 24, A. M. Jeffords died at his residence, 273 South Franklin Street, after a long illness, aged 73 years. He was well known throughout the whole county and had many friends in this city. He was at one time proprietor of a store in Wyoming and subsequently conducted the Luzerne House at West Pittston, and the hostelry now known as Steele's

Hotel at Wyoming. He was twice married. His first wife was a daughter of James Jenkins and a sister of Hon. Steuben Jenkins. After her death he married the widow of Daniel Lazarus, by whom he is survived. He had resided in this city for a number of years and until incapacitated by his malady was engaged in various commercial enterprises. The funeral was held from his late residence on Friday at 2 pm., with interment at Forty Fort Cemetery.

**MARRIED FIFTY YEARS.**

**A Delightful Anniversary—A Remarkable Family History—Death has Left Its Ranks Unbroken.**

The instances in which man and wife are permitted to enjoy unbroken the marriage tie for half a century, are few indeed. Yet Calvin Parsons and his good wife have been thus spared, and on Aug. 17 they celebrated most auspiciously their golden wedding at their charming home in Parsons. To make the event more striking than usual, all the children born to them are living and were present. They are Major Oliver A. Parsons, Louisa A., wife of C. P. Kidder, Almeda A., widow of Emanuel C. Cola, Anna Dana, wife of Geo. W. Fish, of Waverly, and Heskiah. There are 13 grandchildren, all of whom were present.

The greensward on the spacious grounds never looked fresher, and the capacious mansion had on its brightest holiday garb. From 8 in the afternoon until late in the evening a steady stream of friends poured into the mansion, tarrying long enough to present their compliments and have a pleasant chat, to say nothing of partaking of the most toothsome refreshments—salads, sandwiches, fruit, ice cream, coffee, etc.

The bride and groom of 50 years ago received in the parlor and drawing room and they looked so young that the observer could scarcely believe that they were the principals in the golden wedding. They both retain their youth to a surprising degree and none enjoyed the reunion more than they. Mr. Parsons was ubiquitous in his attention upon his guests and the only regret he had was that he had not provided an album in which all should register their names. His children, children-in-law and grand-children were also unceasing in their care for the friends who had assembled.

The drawing room mantel was screened by a bank of hydrangia, sunflowers, ground

pine and ferns. On the parlor mantel was a beautiful floral offering from Hon. and Mrs. Charles A. Miner. On the mantels and window sills were vases of beautiful flowers. Among the other floral decorations was a beautiful tribute from Mr. Parsons' associates in the directory of the People's Bank. Against the mirror were the figures in gold, 1837—1897. In the parlor were two beautiful chairs presented by the children and a cherry table presented by the younger grandchildren. The guests had been requested in the invitation to bring no presents and the wish was respected. The tables in the dining room were lighted with candelabra, as were also the mantels in the parlor and drawing room.

The tables were waited on by some of the grand-children, Miss Mame Kidder and Calvin Kidder, of Wilkes-Barre, and by Miss Manness, of Scranton, a sister of Mrs. H. Parsons. Guests were received at the door by two little grand-children, Clarence Kidder and Harry Fish; up stairs by Anna and Edna Cole and Ruth and Alice Fish.

Among the callers were the following, many of them accompanied by members of their families:—N. Rutter, A. T. McClintock, Wesley Johnson, W. S. Wells, Rev. H. E. Hayden, Rev. H. H. Welles, S. H. Lynch, Judge Dana, G. M. Miller, E. J. Flick, J. W. Hollenback, H. Baker Hillman, A. J. Davis, Hon. Charles A. Miner, C. W. Bixby, Wm. P. Miner and daughters, Miss Jane Miner, Miss Laura Brower, Dr. J. L. Miner, F. O. Johnson, Dr. Murphy, Wm. Dickover, Mrs. Koerner, Miss Anheiser, Mrs. Rhoads, Mrs. Priestly Johnson, Rev. W. J. Day, Isaac M. Thomas, Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, W. S. Parsons, Dr. C. S. Beck, Rev. H. E. Spayd, C. P. Kidder, J. C. Jeffries, W. F. Bailey, Geo. Loveland, B. M. Espy, Mrs. F. W. Hunt, Mrs. C. F. Reeps.

There were also present among others: From Scranton: C. F. Mattes and daughters, Mary and Nell, Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. McKinny, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Manness and daughter, Mary, Paul Weitzell, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Shotton, Mrs. Edgerton; Mrs. Wilcox and daughter, Earlville, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Wood, Trenton, N. J.; Lawrence Ladd, Springfield, Mass.; Hon. and Mrs. Steuben Jenkins, Wyoming; Mrs. Huldah Crumb and Mrs. Carincroft, Smyrna, N. Y.; Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Henry Green, Earlville, N. Y.; Dr. Charles Dana, Frank Piatt, Mrs. Wheelock, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Metcalfe, Mr. and Mrs. Streeter, and others Tunkhannock; Alva Tompkins and Dr. and Mrs. N. G. Parke, Pittston; S. A. Metcalfe, B. W. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Metcalf, Tunkhannock; John R. Fordham and wife, Green Ridge; Mrs. Park, of Easton; Dr. J. J. Rogers, of Huntville; Dr. and Mrs. Underwood, of

Pittston; W. P. Johnson and wife, of Ketcham; from Parsons—Rev. Dr. Y. C. Smith, wife and daughter, Capt. Colvin and wife, John Bowers and wife, Daniel W. Kimball and wife, Lieut. Moore and wife, George Davis and wife, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Rhodes, Dr. Mebane.

Among those from whom regrets were received were these: Sarah B. Lyman, Lakeville, Conn.; E. K. Morse, Granby, Conn.; Fannie Dana, Morrisville, Pa.; Anna Lothrop, Trenton; O. S. Mills, Tunkhannock; Daniel Phelps, Warehouse Point, Conn.; E. G. McCarragher, Roaring Brook; Eunice Dana, Trenton; Dr. O'Neal, Gettysburg; Mrs. E. E. Thomas, Nantucket; John Alderson, Walter H. O'Neil, Gettysburg; Stephen Miller, Old Forge; Elizabeth D. Strong, Pittston; E. G. Tracy, Waverly, N. Y.; Dr. Bedford, Waverly, Pa.; Mrs. Dr. Oliver, Elizabeth, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Ingalle, Little Falls; Dr. and Mrs. Johnson, Waverly, N. Y.; Selden Scranton, Oxford, N. J.; B. Courtright, Orange; F. B. Davison, Fleetville, Pa.; Taylor and Eva Parsons, Springfield, Mass.; D. F. Parsons, Earlville, N. Y.; Rev. and Mrs. Taylor, Waverly, N. Y.; S. E. Raynor, Carbondale; Dilton Yarrington, Carbondale; Miss N. G. Pease, Milton, Conn.; Lettie Thomas Sturdevant, Nanticoke; from Scranton—Dr. Throop, Mrs. H. B. Phelps, Mrs. A. N. Decker, Dr. and Mrs. Hollister, Hon. and Mrs. J. A. Scranton, Mrs. J. C. Phelps, W. F. Mattes, R. A. Squires; from Wilkes-Barre—E. S. Loop, A. H. Dickson, Miss Natalie Rutter, Dr. and Mrs. Urquhart, F. J. Leavenworth, W. W. Loomis.

Among the regrets was a beautiful one from Rev. Dr. S. C. Logan, of Scranton, who was married on the same date, 35 years ago.

The bride's cake was an elaborate specimen of the baker's art and was decorated with gold, also bearing the anniversary date.

A most interesting feature of the event was the reading of an original poem suitable for the occasion, by O. P. Kidder, Esq., for which we regret we have not room.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons were married in Enfield, Conn., and one of the guests at the wedding was present at the golden wedding, Mrs. Parsons' brother, John C. Parsons, of Iowa. Of the 72 guests at the wedding seven are living: Mrs. Parsons' sister, Elizabeth, P. Barber, of East Windsor, Conn., who stood up with the bride, also Miss Pease and Mrs. Parsons' aunt, Mrs. Phelps, of Enfield. Wm. P. Miner was at the in-fare, as also his sister, Mrs. Jessie Thomas. Two cousins in Illinois, Mrs. Elias Downing and Mrs. John Williamson, also at the in-fare, are living.

### THE FLIGHT FROM WYOMING.

An Address at the Meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, July 2, 1887, by W. A. Wilcox, Esq.

The matchless beauty of this Valley of Wyoming has frequently been the inspiration of the pen of the poet and of the pencil and brush of the artist. The story of the battle and massacre has been told again and again, in prose and in verse, with painstaking elaboration of detail and in the quick sentences of passionate eloquence, until it is as familiar, as it deserves to be, not only in the homes of the valley and in the widely scattered homes of the descendants of the patriots, but wherever the English language is known and wherever patriotism dwells. The names of those who fought have been reverently gathered and are here fittingly inscribed on this monument erected to their memory. The influence of the event on the final result of the war for independence has been ably discussed and its importance so clearly shown that it is now conceded by all. The questions of title and of jurisdiction have been exhaustively treated and long since happily settled. Passing all of these by as matters familiar to you, I shall try to stir your love of country and of home, (which I take it is the proper object of this gathering), by recounting some of the particulars of the flight of the inhabitants.

Justice and gratitude demand that we remember not only the valor of the soldiers who fought on that eventful third of July, but as well the sufferings and fortitude and endurance of the noble women of Wyoming.

Let us first glance at the geographical position and surroundings of Wyoming. It was an isolated community, almost embosomed in the country of a savage enemy. "The Six Nations," a confederation of powerful and warlike Indian tribes, occupied Central and Western New York, with prominent towns at Geneva, (Kanadesagua), Tioga, Chemung and other points to the north and west of Wyoming. Niagara, occupied by the British, was the stronghold from which British, Indians and Tories sallied forth on their expeditions against the settlers of different parts of the country. "It was the depot of their plunder; there they planned their forays, and there they returned to feast until the time for action should come again."

To Shamokin or Sanbury, the nearest inhabited post down the river was seventy miles.

Between the Susquehanna and the Delaware rivers are two mountain ranges. The one next the Susquehanna is the Moosic range, or Pocono. To the south-east of Wyoming it is a plateau or table-land 800 to 1,400 feet above the valley. The greater part of this plateau is to this day a perfect wilderness, parts of it covered with a dense primeval forest growth of pines, spruces, balsams, etc. Here are found also in places the heaths, orchids and sedges of Labrador and Northern Europe, almost on their southern limit. Much of this wilderness is very swampy and there are large tracts, miles in extent, covered with bogs and marshes.

Col. John Jenkins, writing March 14, 1758, says: "Great Swamp lies about forty miles west south-west from Cashnetunk or Station Point; from Bethlehem about forty-five miles north-north-west; from Gnadenthetten about twenty-three miles north, something west. This swamp lies just over the mountains which Evans calls Cashnetunk Mountains, and is twenty-five miles from north to south and fifteen miles from east to west. The Bethlehem people say four or five hundred Indians keep in this swamp, and from thence 'tis imagined they send out parties to destroy the settlements."

Some idea of what this immense wilderness is, can be formed from a ride over the D., L. & W. RR. to the Water Gap. Beyond this plateau, lying northeast and southwest, is a valley in which flow towards the south the Lehigh River and its tributaries, the Tobyhanna and Tunkhannock Creeks, and in the other direction the Wallenpanpack and the Shohola Creeks. Across this valley from us is the Blue Mountain, with its Wind Gap and Water Gap.

This region can hardly be called, as Stone has it, a pathless one. There were Indian trails crossing it towards the Southeast, perfectly familiar, doubtless, to the savages and more or less so to the settlers, though it can hardly be presumed that they were practically so to the women and children.

These paths or trails are described as being remarkable for their directness. They preferred hill-sides to ravines and close valleys, were conveniently wide for foot travel, and frequently in favorable soil worn to a depth of one or two feet, or even more.

One of them was known as the "Warriors' Path." It led from Wyoming to Fort Allen, now Weiesport, on the Lehigh. It was laid down on the old maps and surveys and in 1844 was still a well beaten path, used by people in crossing the mountain from Hanover.

Another led through the marshes already mentioned, to Stroudsburg, then known

by the name of Fort Penn. This route had been used by most of the settlers coming into the valley, and some ten years before they had determined on opening it as a road. This had, however, not been accomplished, and was not until Gen. Sullivan came in, in the Summer of 1779.

Another trail lay up the Lackawanna by Capouse Meadows and the Lackawaxen. Having reached the Delaware the route was up the river to the Minisink country, thence across to Newburgh and Poughkeepsie, and to Connecticut and Rhode Island.

The number of those to whom, in the spring of 1778, the valley was home, was not far from 4,000 in the aggregate. About 200 of these were absent with Washington's army. Between three and four hundred fell in the battle and massacre. The number of those, then, who sought safety in flight was probably a little in excess of three thousand, men, women and children. It is with these 3,000 we have now to deal.

The terrible odds of the conflict while not positively known had been feared by all. And while husbands and fathers and sons made preparation for the battle mothers and children anticipated the worst, and prepared for flight.

Word had been sent out on Thursday, and the inhabitants were gathered, most of them in Forty Fort, some in Pittston and Wilkes-Barre Forts.

These women who had been accustomed to pioneer life, who, while the men were away on public duty had cheerfully assumed the work of planting and harvesting,—who had leached ashes and earth to make saltpetre for gunpowder,—who could load a musket and adjust a flint, were not the women to sit down despairingly while there was anything for them to do. What preparation could be made for the journey had been made, and before day-break of Saturday, the day following the battle, the majority had turned their faces towards Shamokin and towards Connecticut.

Let us take Miner's description of the flight, borrowed by him largely from earlier accounts. A few who had escaped came rushing into Wilkes-Barre Fort where trembling with anxiety the women and children were gathered, waiting the dread issue. The appalling "*all is lost*" proclaimed their utter destitution. They fly to the mountains— evening is approaching—the dreary swamp and "The Shades of Death" before them,—the victorious hell-hounds are opening on their track. They look back on the valley—all around the flames of desolation are kindling; they cast their eyes in the range of the battle field,—numerous fires speak their own horrid purpose. They

listen! The exulting yell of the savage strikes the ear! Again! A shriek of agonizing woe! Who is the sufferer? Is it the husband of one who is gazing! The father of her children! !

O God, who art the widow's friend,  
Be thou her comforter.

Their flight was a scene of wide-spread and harrowing sorrow. Their dispersion being in an hour of the wildest terror, the people were scattered, singly, in pairs, and in larger groups, as chance separated them or threw them together in that sad hour of peril and distress. Let the mind picture to itself a single group, flying from the valley to the mountains on the east, and climbing the steep ascent—hurrying onward, filled with terror, despair and sorrow— the affrighted mother whose husband has fallen— an infant on her bosom, a child by the hand, an aged parent slowly climbing the rugged steep behind them; hunger presses them severely; in the rustling of every leaf they hear the approaching savage, a deep and dreary wild-erness is before them, the valley all in flames behind, their dwellings and harvests all swept away in this spring flood of ruin, the star of hope quenched in this blood shower of savage vengeance.

There is no work of fancy in a sketch like this. Indeed it cannot approach the reality. There were in one of these groups that crossed the mountains on the Warriors' Path one hundred women and children, and but a single man, Jonathan Fitch, Esq., sheriff of Westmoreland to aid, direct and protect them.

Botta, in his history of the Revolutionary war, in concluding his account of the Massacre of Wyoming, says: "Those who survived the massacre were no less worthy of our commiseration. They were women and children who had escaped to the mountains at the time their husbands, fathers and friends expired under the blows of the barbarians. Dispersed and wandering in the wilderness as chance and fear directed their steps, without clothes, without food, without guide, these defenceless fugitives suffered every degree of distress. Several of the women were delivered alone in the woods at a great distance from every possibility of relief or help. The most robust and resolute only escaped, the others perished; their bodies and those of their helpless infants became the prey of wild beasts."

The majority of the settlers had fled Friday night; others, a large number, set out Saturday night, while there were those, some of them detained by savages, some by different necessities, who remained still longer. They may have been more conf-

dant of the humanity of Col. Butler, and of their Tory neighbors, and afterwards relied on the pledges of the articles of capitulation. A few instances will suffice to show how those pledges were kept:

Jonathan Weeks, whose three sons fell in the battle with four others of his household, seven in all, was one of those to remain. A band of savages, led by one called Turkey, visited his house, and after destroying property and submitting him to indignities at their hands, gave him three days to remove with his family. His house and property were then burned.

Mr. Hickman, his wife and child were murdered at Capouse the day after the battle.

James Adam Leach and Daniel St. John, attempting to leave in the direction of Capouse, were murdered about a mile above Old Forge.

Timothy Keys and Solomon Hooksey were taken captive, carried northward and killed in Abington.

The treachery of the enemy and the insecurity of their position became more and more apparent every day to the settlers who had remained, and when at last they were driven from Wyoming they found themselves pursued in the same manner, and had to encounter the same privations and sufferings as did their neighbors who had preceded them. The percentage of those who survived was probably not materially different among those who fled at once and those who remained to the last.

Most of the fugitives took the Stroudsburg route over the mountain. It has already been mentioned as leading through the Pocono marshes. One of these had been known as the "Great Swamp," but it has ever since been called the "Shades of Death" because of the great number who perished there in their flight. While that number cannot be told with any degree of certainty, it may be set down as probably about two hundred.

About one-third of the whole number of fugitives, perhaps one thousand, went by canoes, rafts, etc., down the Susquehanna. Mr. Wm. Maclay, in a letter to the Council of Pennsylvania, July 12, 1778, (nine days after the battle) says: "I left Sunbury on Wednesday last. I never in my life saw such scenes of distress. The river and roads leading down it were covered with men, women and children, flying for their lives." They went from Sunbury to Harrisburg to Lancaster County, while many took their way across the mountains from Catawissa, Berwick, and other points on the Lehigh and Delaware.

The time occupied in the journey of course varied greatly. Some reached Sunbury with canoes in twenty-four hours. To

Stroudsburg was two or three days' journey. Connecticut could be reached in about two weeks. At the time of the battle Capt. Spaulding, at the head of sixty-nine men, what remained of Captains Ransom's and Durkee's companies, was on his way to the relief of Wyoming, and met the foremost of the fugitives the evening of Sunday at Bear Swamp. As his force was entirely inadequate to engage the invaders he went only to a point overlooking the valley, then disposing his forces so as to give the greatest assistance to the flying settlers, returned towards Fort Penn where he remained until August 4.

While the feelings engendered by the Pennsylvania-Connecticut question of jurisdiction found expression in many acts of barbarous inhospitality on the part of some towards the fugitives, still it is to be said that most of those with whom the fugitives came in contact were found ready to assist them in every way possible. The generous Scotch-Irish of the Paxtang settlement were particularly hospitable, and the Moravians at Bethlehem.

Let us now look at a few of the details, some of them unpublished, of this sad story. Mercy Ross, widow of Lieut. Perrin Ross and sister of Jonathan Otis, both of whom were killed in the Wyoming Massacre, gives this account of her escape:

When the news came to go into the fort she packed the papers and clothes in a chest and her pewter platters she buried with other articles in the garden. She then took her children and went into the fort (Forty Fort) the night before the battle. When the news came to the fort that our men were defeated she would not stay in the fort. A party of thirty, one old man with a horse, the rest women and children, went out of the fort at night, crossed the river at Wilkes-Barre and went up into Solomon's Gap that night. When they got into the woods they lay down to rest and sleep. They went on next day and were ten days getting through the wilderness. Hannah, (Ford) wife of Josiah Rogers, died on the route and was buried under the root of a fallen tree, and Mrs. Ross was so worn down with the excitement and fatigue of the journey and starved for want of food, that when the burial was over and the party was about to move on, Mrs. Ross said that she could go no further and would like to be buried alongside of the other woman. She was, however, appealed to in behalf of her children, and urged to get up and go on with the party, which she was finally induced to do. They first met the abode of civilization at Allentown and stopped at the house of the people and asked for food, but were refused.

They did not go far after this before they were taken up by the Government and furnished with provisions. She had five children with her, all of whom were about naked, so badly were their clothes torn and worn in the journey. About the first of October, three months after the battle, her last child was born in Connecticut. In March, 1782, she married Samuel Allen, with whom she moved to Wyoming to the place of her former husband, Perrin Ross, on Ross Hill, in the winter of 1784-5.

The Rogers family of Plymouth, who formed part of this company in the afternoon of that fatal day, heard of the defeat and immediately set out to return to Connecticut. Having but two horses one was packed with indispensables, while one was devoted to carrying the old grandmother, who, too feeble to sit up, was held in the arms of some of the men. When they had thus traveled some six days she asked to be lain on the ground and soon after expired. Her burial has already been mentioned.

A company consisting of Mr. — Hall-dron, Mrs. — Barritt, and Mrs. — Morris set out immediately by the Warrors' Path on hearing the result of the battle. They proceeded two miles and halted, awaiting the rising of the moon, the night being very dark. They then set out on their journey and were three days and nights in getting to Fort Allen. The second night there was a child (son) born to Mrs. Morris. Her husband was in the battle but escaped. When they reached the Lenigh a man came over the river to meet them, riding a powerful horse and bearing two jugs of milk and a bag of biscuits. He fed them and helped them to cross the river. In three weeks they reached their destination in Connecticut.

One hundred and eighty women and children, with thirteen men, having been detained by the Indians and plundered, were sent off in one company three or four days after the battle, bare footed, bare headed and suffering for want of food.

I would like here to speak some worthy tribute to these Women of Wyoming as women. This inscription on the monument, prepared, I believe, by Mr. Edward G. Malley, while it is very much to be admired as being noble and patriotic in sentiment, chaste and eloquent in expression, and accurately truthful in point of fact, seems to be deficient in that it makes no recognition of the women. True, they were not in the battle; theirs was the anxiety of suspense. The men and boys who fought were patriots; their mothers had taught them patriotism. They showed a courage that deserved success; the women showed a fortitude, a faith and a power of endurance that brought final success even after defeat.

Some element of danger has always a fascination to brave hearts, but it would seem that experiences such as these, following as they did the Flunkett invasion and other features of the Pennamite war, would satisfy any with this valley. But such was not the case. Life here had been too sweet. They had come expecting to find a wilderness, and willing to bestow courageous, hard, persistent labor to make of it a home for themselves and their posterity. Coming with this expectation they had not been disappointed. They found a climate more favorable than that of their former homes. A soil that brought forth abundantly. They had established a government of their own, which, says Col. Stone, was the most thoroughly democratic probably of any government that has ever existed among civilized men. They were intelligent, honest and industrious, and they were happy.

Gold-mith's "Sweet Auburn," in its prosperous days, found a counterpart here. It is not strange that Colerive and Southey should associate this Wyoming with their Utopian dreams. It's quiet life was as perfect as its then unmarred landscape. And the influence of that life was sufficient to bring back many of the survivors, notwithstanding its past and future perils. Men came to take up that life where they had left it off. Widows came to mourn their dead. Those who had fled as children came again as husbands and wives. Through many more years of danger and of difficulty they defended their possessions to transmit them to their present custodians. Justice and gratitude demand from us this public recognition of their noble sacrifice. The heritage here of the present from the past consists not alone in these broad fields with their store of mineral wealth. The names and blood of the settlers and the memory of their deeds have come down. The love of liberty that dictated that form of local government established by them—the wisdom and fidelity with which it was administered—the patriotic spirit of self-sacrifice that sent, in a time of home peril, one half the fighting men of the valley (eight times the quota) into the Revolutionary army—the noble virtues of the women which I have today feebly portrayed in part—let us trust that these have been transmitted. Every word, thought and look of sympathy with heroic action helps to make heroism. How fitting then are these annual gatherings of the descendants of the settlers, held in recognition of the obligation of the living to the dead. Let us ever repeat the story of these Wyoming patriots to the end that we may perpetuate in ourselves and in our children their virtues and thereby also their institutions.

## WAR AND PEACE.

**Twenty-five Years After Being Mustered Into Service the Survivors of the 143d Regiment Hold a Reunion on the Old Camp Ground.**

On the 26th of August, 1862, occurred the mustering in of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and the event was properly observed Aug. 26, 1887. Heretofore the annual meeting of the veterans has been held on Nov. 7, the anniversary of the departure for the front, but the inclemency of the weather has impelled a change of date, as above. The wisdom of the change is unmistakable, as everybody present yesterday enjoyed the August weather far more than they have enjoyed the blasts of November, on a bleak hillside, in the open air.

The veterans met at the Jones House, Luzerne Borough, and had an excellent dinner, a hundred or so strong, after which they formed in line and marched to the old camping ground, headed by the Star Drum Corps of Forty Fort, and the stars and stripes, borne by O. P. Hadsel. Arrived on the hill top a hollow square was formed and Captain P. Delacy made some interesting remarks and Secretary J. H. Campbell read the minutes of last year's meeting. Captain Delacy then introduced P. H. Campbell, Esq., of the Luzerne Bar, who was a sergeant in the 107th P. V., stating that he was one of the 12 prisoners sentenced to death by Gen. Joe Johnston for firing upon a Confederate provision train. Mr. Campbell's address was a capital one and was eagerly listened to. We append a synopsis:

The speaker said that this was not the first time that he had met the 143d. He had met them at three different times while in the service. The first time was soon after they joined the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 1st Corps, Army of the Potomac, in February, 1863. The second time was on Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg after being forced from the field, but not until they had left there over one-half of their number, either dead or wounded. The speaker here described the appearance of the men as they looked to him on that afternoon after being six hours engaged with an enemy, in a contest in which our men were outnumbered three to one. He gave a graphic account of the death of young Crippen, the color bearer of the 143d. The third and last meeting in the field with them was in front of Petersburg on the 30th of July, 1864, the day the fort was blown up. The speaker gave his experience with a mortar shell fired from the enemy's lines, which came nearly ending his usefulness as a soldier, and of his experience a few days afterwards when within the enemy's lines as a prisoner he could see the Union men and their works.

This was the 25th anniversary of the mustering into the service of the United States service. It occurred at a time when the government sorely needed aid. Three days afterward occurred the defeat at the Second Bull Run, and one week afterward Lee's invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania. No large bounties tempted you to enlist at that time. Nor was your pay very large—\$13 per month, or about \$4.64 in gold. This included board, but not washing. The washing was done at the risk and expense of the boarder without recourse to the Government. Several instances were cited of heroic services performed by Luzerne County boys, to show that heroes do not live as far away as some are wont to imagine.

Your anniversary has been changed from the time of your leaving Camp Luzerne for the seat of war to the date of your muster into service. This latter occurs at the close of summer. With many of you it is symbolical of your lives. The great majority of you are nearing the close of life's summer, and soon will enter the autumn of life. Some since our last meeting have crossed over the river. Let us hope that they have found rest beneath the shade of the trees.

Two general officers have died in the city of Washington during the last year. Gen. Paul, who in the first day's fight at Gettysburg lost both eyes, and who for 24 years was led by his faithful wife. The other was he who as a private in the ranks of a Michigan regiment fought in the first battle of Bull Run and at the close of the war was retired as a major general. I refer to that great volunteer soldier and pure statesman, John A. Logan. However much some of us may have differed with him on political issues, we all must accord to him a sincerity of purpose and the manliness to assert them. In him the old soldier has lost a true friend.

The speaker paid a tribute to the brave and patriotic women both living and dead, who by their noble example and fidelity to the cause for which we fought, served in no small degree, to crown our cause with success.

As to the surplus in the National Treasury, the speaker favored the giving all deserving old soldiers a liberal pension. Not \$2 per month as is the case now in many instances, but a liberal pension. I know of no better way of helping to keep down the surplus that is giving us so much trouble just now. The generations that are coming after us will not begrudge the money spent in paying pensions. They will learn the magnitude of the task performed by those living in the trying times of war. They will learn that in April, 1861, the army of the United States numbered less than 14,000, and that 10,000 of those at that time were stationed

in the Southern States, leaving less than 5,000 men for duty at the North. That on the first of May, 1865, there were on the muster rolls of the army 1,000,516 men, and that in less than 60 days from the time the last rebel surrendered, this vast army had been disbanded and were again pursuing the peaceful life that they had left, some of them four years previously.

Capt. Delacy read a letter of regret from Major Thomas Chamberlain of the 150th P. V. and presented a lot of interesting matter relative to the tablet to be erected at Gettysburg to locate the position of the 143d. The committee, consisting of Gen. Dana, Col. Conyngham, Col. Reichard, Capt. Blair and Lient. Vaughn, are to meet at Gettysburg on the first of September to make the final arrangements and it is hoped that the monument will be in place by the first of July, 1888. The monument is to be erected on the historic field of Gettysburg, upon the MacPherson farm, where the first day's fight took place, in which the First Corps sustained a loss of over 8,000 out of about 8,500 men, and at the spot where Roy Stone's, afterwards Dana's brigade of Pennsylvanians, made such a brilliant fight. The monument commemorates the heroism of the 143d Pennsylvania Volunteers, and the design illustrates one of the most heroic incidents of the war, in which Color-Sergeant Ben Crippen, of Luzerne, now Lackawanna County, was the hero. The episode is narrated as follows in Carleton's history of the war:

"General A. P. Hill, who commanded the rebels on the first day's fight at Gettysburg, gazed with admiration upon the retreating Union troops. Lieutenant Colonel Freemantle, of the English army, who rode by Hill's side as a spectator, described the thrilling scene as follows: "A Yankee color-bearer floated his standard in the field and the regiment fought around it; and when at last it was obliged to retreat, the color-bearer retired last of all, turning round now and then to shake his fist in the face of the advancing Confederates. He was shot."

The tablet is to be of granite and \$1,500 of the cost will be paid by the State, the Legislature having appropriated this amount for each regimental monument. Persons desiring to contribute can do so by purchasing photographs of the design from any of the G. A. R. veterans at one dollar each. The artist thus describes his idea of the design:

"The rough boulder is suggestive of the solid substantial record that the 143d regiment made during its entire term of service. Rough and ready, ever a rock of defense, sturdy and able to bear the brunt of the fight if needs be. No effort is made to substitute an artificial base under it. Resting

on its own base it is symbolic of the independence that characterized the 143d in the performance of every duty. On the face of this stone is chiseled the story of the Color-Sergeant Ben. Crippen—young in years but old in pluck and courage, and matured in heroism. The old first corps badge looking down upon the story willing to acknowledge to the tourist and to future generations that it is proud to number the boys of the gallant 143d Pennsylvania Regiment among its defenders, and lower down in the face of the stone in close company with the dear old flag we see the brigade and division."

Gen. Edmund L. Dana, who was the regiment's colonel in the service, was loudly called for. He responded with one of his characteristically happy speeches. He complimented the address of Sergt. Campbell. It was valuable in the view of an outsider. He also complimented the ladies for their presence. The change of date of the anniversary, too, was a manifest success. The occasion marked an important date, that of the beginning of your lives as soldiers. It was a day of plumes and feathers and epaulettes, but we soon found these played no real part in war. It was men that were wanted, not display. There is no pomp and splendor to-day, yet you are the men who carried the country through the greatest war in history. Few are allowed to pass through such a period as you passed through, for most generations are uneventful. You met the occasion and filled every requirement. You can fly the flags as yours, the country as yours, for you defended them. I can smell the smoke of battle now, and can hear the roar of the artillery as I look into your faces. You learned war, not in the safe retirement of West Point, but on the battle field. You are soldiers all over, through and through. We meet to see one another, not to recall experiences. There is no recalling. Your war experiences are a part of yourselves. On Aug. 26, 1863, you were near the Rapahannock. A year had passed and beardless boys had become veterans, for you had fought at Fort Royal, Chancellorville, Gettysburg. On Aug. 26, 1864, you were at Petersburg. On Aug. 26, 1865, the war was ended and you were on your way home. Alexander, Cæsar, Napoleon, conquered the armies of their enemies, but never conquered their love. You did the latter and we now witness a happy, reunited and prosperous country—a proud achievement. Next month will be celebrated the Centennial of the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Where would that Constitution have been had it not been for you. You have been brave soldiers, you deserve the title Emeritus, and it becomes you as brave soldiers to be good, honest and



honorable men. [Cheers.]

Secretary Campbell read the following list of veterans present:

Gen. E. L. Dana, colonel commanding.  
Company A—Lt. W. H. Bennett, Wm. Lawbach, Rudolph Fenner, J. A. Koat.

Company B—Capt. D. C. Graham, Ira Coener, Ira Hardy.

Company C—E. H. Groff, Geo. W. Engle, Chas. Shotten, Max Buskirk, Morris Bush, Geo. Deitrick, Wm. Keating, G. W. Keller, C. S. Gabel, F. W. Hawrecht.

Company D—Capt. P. Delacy, Lt. Wilbur F. Rice, M. M. Covert, Sergt. Thomas A. Dally, C. P. Little, Cyrus Rummage, C. J. Turpin, I. D. Willis, Aaron Porter, Ira Ransom, Charles Hoover, Henry Hockenbury.

Company E—Capt. M. L. Blair, Sergt. W. H. Harding Samuel Rogers, Daniel Hunt.

Company F—Capt. H. M. Gordon, Aaron Freeman, Sergt. Alex McDaniels, Sergt. James Kester, J. B. Hoppes, Sergt. J. H. Campbell.

Company G—Sergt. Wm. W. Schooley, Wm. Knorr, Lyman Harris, C. D. Kunkle, Chas. A. Westfield.

Company I—F. M. Lockard, Philip S. Hartman, J. F. Moss, W. S. Downing, J. M. Wolfe.

Company K—Capt. O. E. Vaughn, Jacob Bono, John Wilbur, Eli Nichols, Frank Furman, Henry Maynard, Wm. Russel.

The visitors whose names were obtainable were these:

Sergt. G. W. Rimer, Sweet Valley, 149th Pa.; N. Vanarsdale, Luzerne, 58th Ill.; E. Cunningham, Nicholson, 50th N. Y. Engineers; James A. Decker, Springville, 208d Pa.; A. Aten, Luzerne, 81st N. J.; Joseph Congledon, Pleasant Hill, 151st Pa.; Robert Wallace, Luzerne, 48th Pa.; G. W. Lapha, Luzerne, 57th Ohio; P. F. Weiteroth, Wilkes-Barre, 2d Conn.; Edward Hughes, Luzerne, 9th Pa. Cav.; Capt. P. H. Campbell, Wilkes-Barre, 107th Pa.; O. P. Hadsel, Scranton, 41st Pa.; Sergt. A. A. Collins, Brown Hollow, 107th Pa.; Thos. Argood, Luzerne, 52d Pa.; Dr. E. N. Banks, Wilkes-Barre, Mexican War and Rebellion in 54th Ind.; Dr. O. H. Wilson, Plymouth, surgeon, 49th Pa.; H. C. Miller, Kingston, 52d Pa.; W. L. Milham, Wilkes-Barre, 52d Pa.; Cornelius Robins, 58th Pa.; J. R. Ehret, 1st N. Y. Cav.; Col. C. K. Campbell, 142d Pa.; George Hazle, 109th Pa.; G. W. Barney, Signal Corps; Capt. C. W. Boone, 7th Cav.; Sergt. D. S. Clark, 2d Cav.; T. D. Wolf, Third Heavy Artillery.

H. H. Tyler, 84th Pa., now of Binghamton, sang in stirring manner "We've drunk from the same canteen."

Announcement was made that the ladies of Luzerne Borough desired to entertain the veterans at next year's meeting and the invitation was unanimously accepted.

F. W. Hawrecht produced the fife that he had carried through the war and into Southern prisons, and played several of the stirring airs that used to cheer the boys in the times that tried men's souls.

Capt. Vaughn and Post Commander Deitrick made brief remarks and after the final announcement the veterans formed for dress parade, were inspected by their old colonel, and then marched back to the hotel where their dismissal occurred.

All the officers were re-elected—Capt. Delacy, president; Comrades Rice and Deitrick, vice presidents; Comrade Bennett, treasurer, and Comrade J. H. Campbell, secretary.

Luzerne Borough was gaily decorated.

#### West Branch History.

The *Historical Journal* (Williamsport) for September contains a fund of interesting matter pertaining to pioneer life in the West Branch region. The first installment is given of the personal journal of Hon. Samuel Macla, who was one of the commissioners appointed by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania to examine the territory in the northwestern part of the State lately purchased of the Indians and to discover if possible a route for a road to connect the waters of the Allegheny with the West Branch of the Susquehanna. The journal is now published for the first time and will run through several numbers.

#### GIRLS' NAMES

Some of the Quaint Ones Common a Hundred Years Ago.

In a recent communication to the *Bangor Historical Magazine*, Joseph Williamson, Esq., of Belfast, has given a list of marriages in Belfast from 1774 to 1814, inclusive. The names of most of the men are familiar to-day. We find John, James, Charles, Jacob, Henry, William, &c., occurring again and again. It is interesting to observe the names of the women. Among them are Sarah, Deborah, Lois, Keziah, Priscilla, Barshaba, Theodate, Narassa, Grizel, Rachel, Phoebe, Wealthy, Love, Charity, Temperance.

The 113 girls used but 45 Christian names among them. Polly, Betsey, Sally, Jane, Susannah, Nancy, Abigail, and Mehitable, very popular names among our grandmothers, have been put away, like the old ball dresses and high-heeled slippers that figured in society in the days of Gen. Knox. To-day, distinguished by such names as Annie, Alice, Mabel, Jennie and Grace, the beauty transmitted from other generations continues its perpetual sway. Another thing noticeable is the disappearance of such quaint names as Wealthy, Love, Charity, and Temperance.

They have gone with the Pollies and Salties. Delight alone among the names of 1887 is left to suggest that a trace of the old Puritan sentiment yet survives.

#### An Historic Island.

The late Thompson Derr, of this city, owned an island in the Susquehanna, in Dauphin County, which is thus alluded to in the *Historical Journal*, (Williamsport):

It was formerly called Juniata Island—then Duncan's Island, because a man named Duncan was the proprietor for many years. It was a favorite spot with the Indians. Two tribes once dwelt there. Tradition speaks of a great battle having been fought between the Delawares and Cayugas at an early day. It was so severely contested that the gullies ran red with the blood of the slain warriors, and the bodies of a thousand or more were buried on the field. The Delawares were defeated and driven away. When the canal was constructed hundreds of skeletons were exhumed. Rev. David Brainerd, the missionary, visited the Indians, who dwelt on the island, in 1745, but found them very savage and intractable. The earliest white settler was named Hulings. He came in 1746 and remained until about 1761, when he and his family were driven off by the Indians. The fine mansion stands on the lower end of the island and has been a conspicuous object for nearly a century. It is a substantial stone house of 20 or more rooms, grand in all its surroundings, which in early days was the headquarters for stage and packet passengers under the hostelry of Mrs. Duncan. This house is built of river stone and rough cast finish. The walls are three feet thick; all partitions are two feet stone walls to second floor. With such massive walls it will stand for ages. The house was built for Robert Calandar Duncan, son of Judge Duncan, and his wife Rebecca Huling Duncan, granddaughter of Marcus Hulings, the founder of the island. Some of the original furniture of this grand old mansion is still in the possession of P. F. Duncan (grandson of Robert C. and Rebecca H. Duncan), of Duncannon, Pa. At the death of Robert C. Duncan the property went to Mrs. Duncan, and at her death in 1850 to Dr. Thomas and Benjamin Stiles Duncan, the former's interest being sold and bought by Benjamin Stiles Duncan. At his death, in 1870, it went to his heirs, namely: Mary L., Jane M., Friscoy M. and P. F. Duncan. When the settlement was made P. F. Duncan took it at appraisement and since sold it to Thompson Derr, now deceased, of Wilkes-Barre, for \$30,000, whose estate still owns it. It is managed by William H. Richter as a stock and breeding farm. Under the present ownership it has been much improved, a large barn having been built at a

cost of \$11,000. They also have a good race course of one-half mile. The large stone mansion is occupied by Mr. Richter and sister, who are a nephew and niece of the late Thomson Derr. Mrs. Duncan, with some outside support, built a Methodist Church on the island, which was washed away by the 1865 flood. The older residents of the island are fast dwindling away. Of the older families there still remain Capt. Samuel German, A. Lukens, George, Thomas and James Carpenter, the latter being the most successful river pilot plying between the headwaters and the sea. The floods of 1865, 1868, 1874, 1878 and lesser ones, have damaged the island to a great extent.

#### A Relic of Pioneer Days.

[Tunkhanneck Democrat.]

A relic of antiquity, in the shape of a pair of knee buckles, was shown in our office on Tuesday last by Chas. C. Harding, of Eaton Township, this county, a son of Jesse Harding, who is now upwards of 80 years of age and, we are sorry to learn, totally blind. The Hardings are descendants of the pioneer settlers of Wyoming Valley who braved dangers and death that they might carve out homes for themselves and future generations. But to the relic. The buckles were taken from the clothing of Benjamin Harding who, with his brother Stokely, was murdered by the Indians just opposite Falling Spring, a few miles up the river from Pittston, in 1778, a few days before the Wyoming massacre, and whose remains lie buried in a small three cornered cemetery in the heart of the village of West Pittston. These two young men went out in the morning of about July 1, 1778, to hoe corn on a small clearing at the point designated, little suspecting that treacherous savages were lurking near with murderous intent, and not returning at the accustomed time, search was instituted and their bodies found near the scene of their labors.

Benj. and Stokely Harding were uncles of Jesse Harding and the late Elisha Harding, and these relics have been kept as souvenirs in the family of Jesse Harding for many years, and no doubt will be preserved by his descendants for generations to come as a memento which will link them with the past and the "days which tried men's souls." The outside, or rim, of the buckles is of pure silver, and the tongues of steel, and they were used in those "early times" for fastening the stockings to the pants—short knee pants being worn in those days.

[Besides the two Hardings killed, there was a younger brother, John, who succeeded in making his escape. Judge Garrick M. Harding, of Wilkes-Barre, is a grandson of John.—Ed. RECORD.]

# The Historical Record

VOL. I.

AUGUST, 1887.

NO. 12.

## A CURIOUS CHAPTER OF HISTORY.

**An Event Said to Have occurred at Wyoming in 1755, But Not Found in Any of the Usual Authorities.**

In a recent issue the RECORD mentioned a rare old history of Pennsylvania, originally published in German about 1755, and translated and published in French in 1768, it being now in the possession of Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming. Mr. Jenkins has furnished the following translation with comments of his own to Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries*, he meanwhile asking for some other authority as to the treaty at Wyoming in 1755.

"The war which broke out in Canada, between England and France, in 1754, very soon embraced all the neighboring countries, and Pennsylvania was not spared. The French, persuaded that they would there find only a feeble resistance, because of the pacific principles of the Quakers, menaced that State with an invasion in the middle of the year 1765. Aided by some parties of savages from the vicinity of the Ohio River they completely overcame, on the 9th of July in that year, Gen. Braddock, who was killed in the action. This victory rendered them masters of all the Western country, from the Ohio to the point of the division of the river Susquehanna into two branches at Shamokin, and resulted in fixing in their party all the savages of these countries. Different detachments of these savages showed themselves at 20 leagues from Philadelphia; others went among the Delawares who were at peace, to determine them to raise the hatchet against the English; but it was the following imprudence that engaged them to declare themselves, and which failed to bring in its train the loss of all Pennsylvania:

"Some English, sent on a reconnoissance, had come to Shamokin, a village of the Delawares, on the Susquehanna. They then learned that a party of savages and French were in the neighborhood, and were in the Valley of the Juniata. Scarroyadi, one of the chiefs of the Iroquois, warned the English to withdraw, and counseled them to return by the East branch of the Susquehanna. The English did, in effect, withdraw, but in place of taking their route by the shore of the East Branch they followed

the shore of the West Branch, fell into an ambuscade of a party of French, who killed four of them. Flight saved four or five others of the party.

"Immediately after the affair, an English trader having arrived at Wyoming, another village of the Delawares, said to them that it was known that it was they who had killed his compatriots and that vengeance would be poured out on their nation. This indiscreet discourse spread among these people and made them assemble at Wyoming with the design of resisting the English if they were attacked. On the other side the English regarded this assemblage of savages as a first step which announced a disposition to commence hostilities. Consequently, without seeking more particular information, or waiting until the Delawares should attack him, they seized all those who were established in the Colony, and arrested them to the number of 232 persons of every age and sex.

"One of these prisoners having escaped, spread the news among his compatriots, and informed them of all that had taken place in Pennsylvania. They redoubled their watchfulness, and on all sides there was nothing but preparation for war. In the meantime four English deputies to treat with the Indians on the misunderstanding, arrived at Wyoming, where they at once assembled in council. When they had made report of their mission and agreed on some principles of accommodation, the savage who had escaped from prison, seeing that the Delawares were ready to acquiesce in the demands of the English, cried out:

"Give no faith to what these people say to you! They have no other design than to deceive you—to make you their prisoners, or to put you to death at the edge of the sword!" Immediately the savages, interrupting the conference, leaped to their feet and killed the four deputies.

"Since this fatal epoch, the savages ceased not to commit hostilities and the most frightful cruelties. They especially distinguished themselves in the month of October, 1755. There are no events of this kind in history that we are able to put as a parallel with the barbarities they executed.

"At Gnadenhutten, a small establishment of Moravians, in the county of Northampton, the inhabitants, peacefully assembled,

supped without disquiet. These ferocious enemies, under cover of a night as dark as the design that conducted them, advanced without noise, surprised them, taking their scalps and putting everything to the flames. When the next day appeared it offered to the sight nothing but the ashes of the corpses of the unfortunate Moravians confounded with those of their houses, their provisions, and a multitude of horned cattle."

Here follow accounts of several most brutal and blood-thirsty massacres at the Great Cove in Cumberland County, at Tulpehocken in Berks County, at Minisinks, etc., at close of which is the following statement:

"A chief of the Delawares, named Captain Jacobs (from whom Jacobs' Plains in Wyoming are named), was principally distinguished in these incursions. At Philadelphia a price was put upon his head, as well as those of several other chiefs."—Chap. xiii.

This account of a meeting in the nature of a Treaty of Peace, at Wyoming in 1755, and the taking of 232 of the Delawares prisoners; also the killing of the four English deputies, I have not found in the history of Pennsylvania. I would like to have some one give me a reference to some other authority where it may be found. I suspect the location of those transactions at Wyoming is a mistake. They may have taken place in some other locality, but I think not here. If in this locality, I would like a voucher for them.

About ten or twelve years ago I was told by the late Hon. Joseph W. Cake, that in 1755, a considerable body of Indians and French came to Shamokin to make an attack on Fort Augusta, and encamped on the hill to the northeast of that Fort. While lying there making reconnoissances preparatory to the attack, a shrewd and skillful blacksmith in the Fort conceived the idea of making a quantity of crow feet, an implement of iron having four toes about 1½ inches long, sharp at the point and barbed, so arranged that when thrown upon the ground one of these points always stood up, and was in position to penetrate the foot of man or beast that might tread upon it. These were sowed about the fort at a proper distance, in a belt of two or three rods wide.

The day of attack finally came, and the Indians and their French allies rushed upon the fort with deafening yells. When the Indians reached the belt of crow feet their moccasins and feet were penetrated with their points. Sitting down to draw these barbed points from their feet, they in many cases found the situation quite as uncomfortable for their seats as it had been for their feet. The attack was suspended by reason of this strange device, and while the Indians were freeing themselves

from the embarrassment occasioned thereby volleys of musketry were poured into them from the fort. They promptly withdrew from the attack and returned to the Ohio.

Thousands of these crow feet have since been found in the localities where they were strewn on this occasion.

STUBBEN JENKINS.

Wyoming, July 22, 1887.

#### The Meteoric Shower of 1833.

The following interesting reminiscence is sent the RECORD by H. C. Wilson, formerly a Luzerne County resident, now a Knox County farmer living in Mt. Vernon, O.:

In 1833 I was living with Pierce Butler, over on the Kingston flats. About 2 o'clock in the morning I saw a bright light out of the window and got up to see what was the matter, supposing that something was on fire. I ran out doors and saw stars, as we called them, falling. It seemed as if they commenced about the centre of the heavens and kept spreading out until it seemed as if it was a mass of fire. I was badly frightened at first, but soon got over that as I saw that nothing was set on fire, when I went in and awoke Mr. Butler, who got up and came out, and like myself, was badly scared at first. He went and awoke his wife while I awoke all the rest of the family, consisting of hired men, one old colored woman and a Miss Eunice Wooley. The latter was the only one not frightened as she said that she thought that the stars went away in that manner every morning. But the old colored woman, Aunt Peggy Prime, got down on her knees and commenced praying, and such a prayer you never heard, at least I never did and she prayed for all of us. I was young and got to laughing, for which I got a scolding. But there was another lady in the house who was also praying and every few minutes would ask if anything was on fire yet.

The shower lasted until after daylight. We could see them falling through the apple trees out in the yard. It was a beautiful sight. There was an old lady in Wilkes-Barre who went through the streets crying "glory," and went to wake up Dr. George Peck, but he thought that the old lady was crazy and would not get up. In after years he told me that he had never forgiven himself, and would rather have lost fifty dollars than missed seeing the sight.

Now, a little about Aunt Peggy Prime. She was as good an old woman as ever lived—good in every way, and lived to be very old, and used to come and visit me in her old age about twice a year. She used to be a slave in the Butler family, I believe.

## Wilkes-Barre Fifty Years Ago.

[Letter to the Editor.]

In my reminiscences of the Wyoming Valley, in 1837, your journal brought me to Wilkes-Barre and placed me in a very kind and hospitable family for the night, that of Rev. John Dorrance, then the Presbyterian minister, and living on Northampton Street where Agib Kicketts now resides.

On my arrival at Wilkes-Barre I was warmly greeted by Rev. Dr. May, rector of St. Stephen's Church and afterwards professor in the Episcopal Theological Seminary at Alexandria. I became acquainted with Dr. May at Pottstown and we never expected to serve Christ in the Wyoming Valley. Dr. May preached for me one night in the old academy, on the Penitent Thief, and brought out clearly the doctrine of the divine sovereignty. Dr. Dorrance was in Philadelphia as a member of the General Assembly. Doctors May and Dorrance laid deep the foundations of vital piety and were enabled to do more than any other two ministerial laborers in the valley have done. To them highest praise is due.

Before I pass over to Kingston, of which, and the region beyond, I gave your reader a birds-eye view from Prospect Rock, I must note a few things that impressed me. In comparison with our beautiful Wilkes-Barre of to-day, the Wilkes-Barre of 50 years ago was but a village. On the Public Square where the court house now lifts its noble tower, was a church edifice of wood occupied as tenants in common by two denominations—Methodist and Presbyterian—who did not live in perfect unity, and in due time, like Abraham and Lot, amicably separated.

There were only four brick houses in the town: The Slocum mansion on Public Square, now occupied by Brown's bookstore; the Perry mansion at the corner of Main and Northampton Streets; a building on Main between the Square and Northampton Street, west side, near where Wood's building is; the Hollenback mansion at corner of River and Market. Two of these landmarks have disappeared in the progress of improvement.

The name of Slocum is suggestive of much old-time local history. I did not know the elder Slocum, but his worthy descendants, most of whom have passed away, are well known and will not soon be forgotten. I should like to be pointed to the exact spot where Frances Slocum stood when she was captured by the Indians. The spot and event are both worthy of a monument.

It is somewhat strange that George M. Hollenback and Col. Charles Dorrance should have been such able successful business men, for they were brought up as gentlemen's sons and served no special appren-

ticeship in business training. George Hollenback was a great trainer of young men for business and they in turn were good trainers of others. Among these were Ziba Bennett, Nathaniel Rutter, C. F. Reets, R. J. Flick and a Mr. Phillips, who became a partner of Mr. Flick. All are living except Mr. Bennett and Mr. Phillips.

The amusements of the day were more simple than now. Much of the merry making which is now limited chiefly to children was enjoyed by the young people generally. I officiated at a wedding attended by the first class of young people and instead of dancing they entertained themselves with rustic pastimes that would find little favor now.

Prices of labor and prices of produce were very low. Men earned less than a dollar a day. Domestic sometimes worked for fifty cents a week, paid in store pay. Wheat was hauled to Easton by wagon or sled and sold there for fifty cents a bushel.

Judge Scott had laid down the sceptre and Judge Conyngham took it up. Judge Geo. W. Woodward was entering the arena and was making himself a name as a delegate to the convention at Harrisburg for amending the Constitution.

Dr. Thomas W. Miner had the practice in the same families that Dr. Mayer now has.

Few splendid equipages were seen in the streets.

That coal was fuel had been proved, but lands and lots were bought and sold without much reference to the treasures beneath the surface. Here and there was a little winking up as to the real value of the coal, a value which in our day is a thousand dollars or more an acre.

I passed over to Kingston to occupy my field of labor and was kindly received. But my first Sabbath was a gloomy one. I preached in the old academy which stood where is now the residence of Mrs. Mary Reynolds. There were present 15 or 20 men and perhaps 40 women and children, who seated themselves among the desks and writing books. The effect was somewhat discouraging, but things brightened up and soon after I preached a sermon from the text "My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me and I give them eternal life." This was the beginning of better days and from that time on the work continued to prosper. A church building was erected two or three years after my coming. The reason it had not been accomplished before was that this preaching place had no pastor, but was only an outpost, visited at intervals by ministers from Wilkes-Barre. The church was built exactly like the wooden church occupied by the Presbyterians in Wilkes-Barre. The cost was nineteen hundred dol-

lars and the builder was Mr. Marcy. Of course the contractor lost money but I believe the deficiency was made up by the congregation.

Not long after there was a precious revival and the congregation was much strengthened by the access of the Shoemaker family who were nominally Methodists before.

I preached three fourths of my time at Kingston and one-fourth of my time at Nanticoke. My salary at Kingston was \$325 a year, and Nanticoke, as a missionary station, gave such support as it could. During the week I preached at Plymouth, Pittston, Slocum Hollow, (now Scranton), Northmoreland, Dallas, Trucksville and Lehman.

I served the Kingston church as pastor for seven or eight years and it was as prosperous then as it is now. I subsequently gathered a congregation in Plymouth and an edifice was erected there. It was dedicated by Dr. Cuyler. I also gathered a congregation in Larkville, where under my ministrations a house of worship was built.

E. HAZARD SNOWDEN.

#### Was Arnold Interested in Wyoming?

Not long ago our recent townsman, Mr. Harry Colt Butler, now of the Durango (Col.) *Idea*, addressed the following interesting letter to the RECORD:

While in conversation with Mr. McCloud, the Register of the Durango Land Office, I learned that he was a native of Norwich, Conn. He was quite familiar with the early history of the Wyoming Valley, especially that portion of the history relating to the troubles between the Pennsylvania and Connecticut claimants to the land. He also informed me that he had in his possession a deed signed by Benedict Arnold conveying a portion of land in the valley to his sister, but that the document had passed out of his possession. He also spoke of a certain land company formed by early Connecticut capitalists in which Arnold was interested. As I had never heard of Arnold's connection with the Wyoming Valley before and had seen nothing published in regard to the matter, I concluded that perhaps I had stumbled on an interesting scrap of history. Mr. McCloud gave me the address of the Connecticut State Librarian and stated that the gentlemen could be better able than anyone else to give the desired information. He is thoroughly posted in the early history of Connecticut and passionately fond of antiquarian research. Perhaps the item is of no historical value but I send it for what it

is worth and by writing to the librarian you can probably get at the facts.

#### REPLY TO INQUIRY.

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY, Hartford, July 22, 1887.—EDITOR RECORD: I can give you very little information in regard to the subject of your inquiry. There were, as you well know, two companies formed in Connecticut for selling lands claimed under the Connecticut charter of 1662, lying west of New York. These were the Susquehanna Co. and the Delaware Co. The records of the former are now in the library of the Connecticut Historical Society in this city. They are in several volumes, and having been carefully put away and forgotten by the aged secretary of the society, now dead, were for some years supposed to have been lost. Of the Delaware Co. not much is known. Mr. McCloud while living here had one volume of its records, a register of deeds, which came into his hands when a mere lad in Norwich. I have seen this book but am ignorant as to where it may be at present. Mr. McCloud very probably had other papers of the Delaware Co. which he did not preserve and which have long ago gone to the paper mill.

As the members of both companies were in great part from eastern Connecticut, i. e., the counties of Windham and New London, and as many held shares or rights for speculative purposes and without intention of themselves settling in Wyoming, it is likely enough that Arnold may have been interested in one of them; but I do not now remember whether his name appeared in McCloud's book or not.

CHARLES J. HOADLY.

#### The History of Huntington Valley.

Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman is now arranging for the publication in book form, with numerous additions, the Huntington Valley historical articles published in the *Shickshinny Echo* last year. The volume will exceed four hundred pages, and in addition to what has already been published, will contain a complete roster of the soldiers who enlisted from the townships embraced in the history. The book will be substantially bound and sold at the low price of \$2.50. Mrs. Hartman did some canvassing at Paterson Grove and secured over 90 names.

#### Indian Relics Found.

The South Bethlehem *Star* has been presented with a box containing Indian relics found in Hanover Township, Lehigh Co. The specimens consist of a beautiful spear head over ten inches in length, an Indian stone tomahawk and 30 perfectly shaped arrow heads of different make.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Complete List of from 1794, Together with the Several Clerks of the Board—A Hitherto Unpublished List.

We are indebted to the present board of County Commissioners for the following list, taken from the records, the same having hitherto never been published:

1794—Jesse Fell, Alexander Jameson.  
1795-6—John Phillips, John Jenkins, Thomas Wright.

1800-1—Lawrence Myers, E. Blackman, Thomas Wright.

1803—E. Blackman, Arnold Colt, Oliver Pettebone.

1804—Arnold Colt, Ezekiel Hyde, Oliver Pettebone.

1806—Oliver Pettebone, Benjamin Dorrance, E. Hyde, Eleazer Blackman.

1808—E. Blackman, B. Dorrance, Elisha Harding.

1807—B. Dorrance, E. Harding, H. Tiffany.

1808—E. Harding, H. Tiffany, James Wheeler.

1809—H. Tiffany, J. Wheeler, Benj. Perry. Peleg Tracy was clerk of the board from 1804 to 1809.

1810—Benj. Perry, Thos. Welles, Noah Wadhams, Samuel Bowman.

1811—B. Perry, N. Wadhams, Thomas Park.

1812—B. Perry, N. Wadhams, Abiel Fellows.

1813—Cornelius Cortright, Napthali Hurlbut, Abiel Fellows.

1814—N. Hurlbut, C. Cortright, Benjamin Carey.

1815—C. Cortright, Benj. Carey, James Reeder.

1816—Benj. Carey, James Reeder, Lord Butler.

Jesse Fell was clerk of the board from 1810 to 1816.

1817—Lord Butler, James Reeder, Isaac Hartzell.

1818—Lord Butler, I. Hartzell, E. Shoemaker.

Arnold Colt was clerk of the board in 1817 and 1818.

1819—E. Shoemaker, I. Hartzell, Cyrus Avery.

1820—E. Shoemaker, C. Avery, Joel Rogers.

1821—C. Avery, Joel Rogers, Samuel Yost.

1822—Joel Rogers, Samuel Yost, Hezekiah Parsons.

1823—Samuel Yost, H. Parsons, Steuben Butler.

1824—H. Parsons, Steuben Butler, Elisha S. Potter.

1825—S. Butler, E. S. Potter, Deodat Smith.

1826—E. S. Potter, D. Smith, Arnold Colt.

1827—D. Smith, A. Colt, John Bittenbender.

1828—A. Colt, John Bittenbender, Isaac Harding.

1829—J. Bittenbender, I. Harding, Wm. Swetland.

1830—I. Harding, Wm. Swetland, Cornelius Cortright.

Jesse Fell was clerk of the board from 1819 to 1830.

1831—Wm. Swetland, C. Cortright, Jacob Rambach.

1832—C. Cortright, J. Rambach, Luman Ferry.

1833—J. Rambach, Luman Ferry, Joseph Tuttle.

E. Carey was clerk of the board from 1831 to 1833.

1834—L. Ferry, Joseph Tuttle, Sebastian Sybert.

1835—Joseph Tuttle, S. Sybert, Samuel Saylor.

Thomas Myers was clerk of the board in 1834 and 1835.

1836—S. Sybert, S. Saylor, John Fassett.

1837—S. Saylor, John Fassett, Wm. Koons.

1838—John Fassett, Wm. Koons, Gorton Wall.

1839—Wm. Koons, Gorton Wall, Philip Yost.

1840—Gorton Wall, Philip Yost, Nathaniel Cottrill.

Chester Tuttle was clerk of the board from 1838 to 1840.

1841—Philip Yost, N. Cottrill, Thos. Irwin.

Ohas. W. Potter was clerk of the board in 1841.

1842—N. Cottrill, Thos. Irwin, J. Benscoter.

1843—J. Benscoter, Jno. Rosencranse, Jr., Thos. Irwin.

1844—J. Benscoter, J. Rosencranse, Jr., E. Chamberlin.

Edward Dolph was clerk of the board from 1842 to 1844.

1845—J. Rosencranse, Jr., E. Chamberlin, Charles Berry.

1846—E. Chamberlin, C. Berry, Philip Meixell.

1847—C. Berry, P. Meixell, Ira Branson.

1848—P. Meixell, I. Branson, Robert Eaton.

1849—I. Branson, R. Eaton, Jacob Be-secker.

1850—Robert Eaton, Rowland Richards, Isaiah Stiles.

Jared R. Baldwin was clerk of the board from 1845 to 1850.

1851—L. H. Litts, Isaiah Stiles, R. Hutchins.

1852—Isaiah Stiles, R. Hutchins, Peter Winter.

1853—R. Hutchins, Peter Winter, Abraham Smith.

Chester Tuttle was clerk of the board from 1851 to 1853.

1854—Peter Winter, A. Smith, Daniel Vail.

1855—A. Smith, D. Vail, Silas Dodson.

1856—D. Vail, S. Dodson, W. A. Tubbs.

1857—S. Dodson, W. A. Tubbs, Benj. F. Pfouts.

1858—W. A. Tubbs, B. F. Pfouts, Jno. C. Dunning.

1859—B. F. Pfouts, J. C. Dunning, John Blanchard.

1860—J. C. Dunning, J. Blanchard, Daniel Rambach.

1861—John Blanchard, D. Rambach, Samuel Vaughn.

1862—D. Rambach, S. Vaughn, Nathan Kocher.

1863—S. Vaughn, N. Kocher, Stephen Devenport.

Obaa. T. Barnum was clerk of the board from 1855 to 1868.

1864—N. Kocher, Stephen Devenport, Uriah A. Gritman.

1865—S. Devenport, U. A. Gritman, William Wolf.

1866—U. A. Gritman, W. Wolf, William Franck.

1867—W. Wolf, W. Franck, W. W. Smith.

1868—W. Franck, W. W. Smith, Michael Raber.

1869—W. W. Smith, M. Raber, B. F. Louder.

Steuben Jenkins was clerk of the board from 1864 to 1869.

1870—M. Raber, B. F. Louder, G. W. Bailey.

Steuben Jenkins and Geo. M. Nagle were clerk of the board in 1870.

1871—B. F. Louder, G. W. Bailey, Chas. F. Hill.

1872—G. W. Bailey, C. F. Hill, A. J. Williams.

1873—A. J. Williams, C. F. Hill, R. Gersbacher.

George M. Nagle was clerk of the board from 1871 to 1873.

1874 and 1875—A. J. Williams, R. Gersbacher, N. Sibert.

P. F. Lynch was clerk of the board in 1874 and 1875.

1876, 1877, and 1878—N. N. Dean, Samuel Line and Peter Jennings.

H. O. Jones was clerk of the board in 1876, 1879, 1880, and 1881—L. C. Darte, Stephen Turnbach, James D. Harris.

S. A. Whitebread was clerk of the board from 1877 to 1881.

1882, 1883 and 1884—Thos. W. Haines, S. Oberdorfer, Henry Vanscoy.

Whitebread and H. W. Search were

clerks of the board in 1882. H. W. Search was clerk of the board in 1883 and 1884.

1885, 1886, and 1887—Thos. W. Haines, Thos. English, Cyrus Straw.

Robt. F. Robinson is the present clerk and has filled the position since 1885.

#### The 53d's Reunion.

The survivors of the 53d Pennsylvania Volunteers, residing in this vicinity, held their annual reunion on the Dallas fair ground Sept. 10. There were present a very large number of veterans. One of the objects of the meeting was to raise \$200 to towards erecting a monument on the field of Gettysburg. There was a meeting of survivors of the regiment on the historic field last July, when it was decided to raise \$200 for this purpose in addition to the \$1,500 which the State gives. The sum of \$200 was required from the veterans of this county and on Saturday the whole of the amount was pledged.

During the day a substantial meal was served by the ladies of Dallas, including not only the usual veteran fare, pork and beans, but many additional delicacies. After dinner a meeting was held at which a very large number of the residents of Dallas and vicinity, in addition to the veterans, were present. A number of speeches were made. Among those who addressed the gathering being Gen. E. S. Osborne, Hon. H. B. Payne, of Kingston; Burgess Moore, of Miner's Mills and Capt. Alfred Darte. The day in all was an interesting and enjoyable one to all who participated.

The following survivors of Co. F, 53d Regiment P. V., were present:

Capt. Jacob Rice, Capt. Isaac Howell, Lieut. Martin W. Anthony, Lieut. Lester Race, George W. Towmpson, Alexander Preston, Wm. Richards, Elihue Dimon, Charles Chrispell, E. L. Whitney, Wm. H. Jackson, Peter Culp, E. L. Hoover, S. D. Hunt, John Wilson, Jacob Delay, Able I. Perigo, Amos Pool, Wm. Hockenberry, Perry Frantz, O. L. Roushey, Jabie Jackson, John Perry, James Crulip, Able Ferrigo, James Sorber, Henry Case, Nelson Case, Daniel McCloud.

Following is a list of comrades from other organizations: Gen. E. S. Osborne, Capt. Alfred Darte, P. Ferrigo, 177th P. V.; John F. Minor, 49th P. V.; O. S. Garnett, 7th Pa. Cav.; J. H. Shook, 1st Pa. L. Art.; R. B. Wilson, 18th Cav.; Tom P. Berringer, 143d P. V.; S. F. Rogers, 203d P. V.; John F. Goldsmith, 103th P. V.; Chester Ellsworth, 97th P. V.; Philip Tamaront, 203d P. V.; J. R. Culp, 1st Pa. L. Art.; Wm. Sita, 2nd Pa. L. Art.; Samuel Storry, 97th P. V.; Mat Cobert, 143d P. V.; Charles Kunkle, 143d P. V.; S. B. Snell, 143d P. V.; Charles Dimon, 177th P. V.; James Mc-



Guira, 208d P. V.; Ambrose Hilbert, 143d P. V.; Charles Hoover, 143d P. V.; Michael Rother, 143d P. V.; Joseph Hoover, 143d P. V.; Capt. D. J. Morton, 143d P. V.; Laren Dexter, 188th P. V.; O. B. Write, 12th P. V.; Charles H. Hall, 9th Pa. Cav.; Elijah Richards, 9th Pa. Cav.; Philip Lumarowe, 203d Pa. Cav.; S. Z. Freeman, 12th Pa. Cav.; Samuel Vanarsdale, 58th Illinois; Henry Randall, 1st Pa. L. Art.; John Kunkle, 2d Pa. L. Art.; Joseph Whispell, 15th N. Y.; J. W. Taylor, 16th N. Y. Heavy Art.; Simon Belas, 124th N. Y.; and others.

#### A Relic of Pioneer Life Recovered.

[Honesdale Independent.]

Those who are familiar with the early history of Damascus, Wayne Co., will recall the fact that in November, 1762, the block-house at Coshetunk, built on what is now the William Ross farm, on the Delaware, was attacked by the Indians. The assailants were finally driven off, and the settlers soon afterward abandoned the block-house. A tradition has survived that they threw into a well, within the enclosure, a quantity of tools and other things which they were unable to carry away; and the well was afterward filled up. Recently, Nathan and Albert Mitchell, natives of Damasco, now residing at Great Bend, in preparing for the celebration of the Susquehanna County centennial, decided to explore the old well in search of relics illustrating the settlement of Wayne County. Last Thursday, Albert Mitchell, assisted by Charles Boyd, a son of Hon. T. Y. Boyd, having removed the dirt from the well, at a depth of eighteen feet found an ax and a chisel; the former well preserved, but the latter nearly eaten up by rust. The ax, with the crumbling remains of a helve, about thirty inches long, weighs five pounds and two ounces.

#### Remarkable Swarm of Flies.

Judge E. L. Dana and Charles Dana, of Wilkes-Barre, and F. H. Piatt, of Tunkhannock, went up to Mehoopany on Saturday, Aug. 27 and floated down to town. They caught about thirty fine bass.—*Tunkhannock New Age*.

Our contemporary has missed an important feature of the trip. During the last five miles of their ride they were enveloped in an immense swarm of white flies, which, when they saw at a distance, they thought was a snow squall. The insects shut out the view entirely and the rowers could make their way with difficulty. The flies fell into the stream by thousands and were eagerly seized by the bass in all directions. Judge Dana pronounces it the most wonderful swarm of insects he ever saw, and they were not at all familiar to him.

#### REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

Sketches of the Men Nominated on the Luzerne County Ticket on Sept. 13, at Wilkes-Barre.

##### COUNTY TREASURER.

Charles Buell Metzger was born Nov. 29, 1839, at Lewisburg, Union Co., Pa. Two years later his parents moved to Williamsport and removed to Wilkes-Barre in March, 1848. On his father's side, he is descendent from Holland Dutch stock, who settled at Middletown, Pa., in the year 1763, and his mother was a lineal descendant of John Alden. Charles was educated in the common schools of this city and Wyoming Seminary at Kingston. He learned the trade of plasterer with his father. When the first call for 75,000 men was issued by President Lincoln, he was second sergeant in the Wyoming Artillerists, commanded by the late Col. A. H. Emley, who had offered its services to the governor of the State. The company was mustered into the service of the United States April 23, 1861. He was mustered out in August and returned home, and being an only son, and his mother objecting to his re-enlistment, he remained at work until the call for the militia in '62. He was orderly sergeant of Capt. (now Judge) Woodward's Co. I, 8d Penn. After a campaign of 11 days they were discharged. Charles continued his trade until June, 1863, when there was another call for the State militia, and he enlisted again with Capt. Woodward, and was elected first lieutenant of Co. A, 41st Penn. Dr. Mayer was its colonel. After a six weeks' campaign the company was again mustered out. In February, 1864, having received his mother's consent, he enlisted, with thirteen other Wilkes-Barre boys, in the 4th New York Heavy Artillery, who were stationed at that time at Fort Ethan Allen, in Virginia, where they remained until some time in March, when they were ordered to the front, their Colonel, John C. Tidball, being made chief of artillery of the 2d Army Corps. His regiment was in all the engagements from the Wilderness down to the capture of Gen. Lee. He, with his entire company (38 men and two commissioned officers) were captured at Ream's Station, Va., Aug. 25, 1864, and was confined in Libby and Belle Island prisons, but had the good luck to be paroled after a confinement of some six weeks, and was mustered out with his regiment Sept. 27.

He was a member of the Wilkes Barre Fire Department from 1869 to 1882, filling several stations with the highest satisfaction, resigning as chief engineer Jan. 1, 1882.

He was mustered into Ely Post, 97, Department of Pennsylvania, in 1881, and has filled the position of quartermaster for three

years and commander of the post for one year.

He represented his post for five years at the Department Encampment and was a delegate at the National Encampment at San Francisco last year. Since the fall of 1868 he has been engaged as manufacturer of confectionery.

#### REGISTER OF WILLS.

The Republican standard bearer for Register is Harry C. Beck, of Lehman. Mr. Beck was born in Lebanon County, Pa., in 1839, and came to Luzerne County in 1865. He served 2 years and 3 months during the late war in the 152d Reg., P. V., as a member of Battery H, Light Artillery. He made a most creditable war record, his last engagement being at Gettysburg. He is the proprietor of the Lehman House, at Lehman, and has been engaged in similar business in Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and Luzerne Borough. The veterans of the late war will largely swell the enormous vote that is sure to be polled for Harry Beck.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Capt. Cyrus Straw was born in Hazleton in 1838. He was a son of Andrew Straw, a native of Lebanon County, who moved to Hazleton in 1835. Capt. Straw passed his younger years in the Butler Valley, whither his father had moved. He was educated at the common schools in Butler Township, and in 1855 entered the Wyoming Seminary and studied there for nearly two years. He then taught school in Butler, Hazle and Foster Townships for one term in each. In 1861 he entered the army as a lieutenant in Co. K, 81st Pa. Vols. He served with bravery and distinction until the battle of Antietam Feb. 17, 1862, in which struggle he received a gunshot wound in the hip, and in 1863 was mustered out of the service on account of disability, with the rank of captain. He returned to his home in the Butler Valley, and for 16 months was unable to stir around except with crutches. He soon after entered into business, carrying on an extensive trade in flour, feed, lumber, etc., owning a grist and saw mill. In 1872 his property was totally destroyed by fire, but he succeeded in again establishing a flourishing business in the lumber line, in which he was still engaged at the time of his election to the office of County Commissioner in 1884, since which time he has resided in this city. He was married in 1837 to Sarah H. Leach, of Scranton, daughter of Charles Leach, of Susquehanna.

Harry Evans, of Pittston, is one of the most popular young Welshmen of upper Luzerne. He was born in Aberdare, Wales, and will be 32 years old in January next. He came to America

with his parents when only a few months old, the ocean voyage being noteworthy by reason of the length—two months. Mr. Evans has passed his life in Wyoming Valley. At 10 years of age he was picking slate in a coal breaker and acquiring the rudiments of an education by attending night school after his day's toil was ended. Later he attended the common schools of Pittston, the grammar school and the high school, finishing with a commercial course at Wyoming Seminary from which he graduated in 1874.

He subsequently held several positions as clerk, book-keeper, ticket agent, etc. During 1883-4-5 he was deputy tax receiver of Pittston Borough and was the first man to settle his duplicates in their entirety and without trouble. Last spring he ran for borough auditor and was the only Republican candidate who successfully ran the Democratic gauntlet, he defeating so popular a politician as Court Clerk James L. Morris by a majority of 298. He has been deputy warden of the county prison since last April.

#### AUDITORS.

George W. Rimer, of Sweet Valley, was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1845, and at the age of 12 went to Fairmount Springs, where his father, J. H. Rimer, who had been an engineer in Wilkes-Barre, engaged in farming. After spending four of his boyhood years upon his father's farm, young Rimer was thrilled with the feeling of patriotism that swept over the country, and though only 16 years old rallied to the support of his country's flag, as did his father. He first enlisted in Co. A, 52d Reg., P. V., and afterwards in Co. F, 149th P. V., of which company Edwin S. Osborne, since major general, was captain. Mr. Rimer served more than three years, participating in such important engagements as Pollock's Mills, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and Hatch's Run. His record in camp and on the field was that of a brave and intrepid soldier, though he passed through the war without a wound. After the war he went into the lumber business in the western part of the State, but engaged in farming at Fairmount Springs in 1882. In 1884 he was attending a Grand Army encampment at Bellefonte, when he sustained injuries to the spine by the falling of an elevated seat, which have since entirely incapacitated him, he having no use of the lower part of his body, and being unable to get from point to point except by the aid of crutches.

Butler Friedland Dilley was born in this city about twenty-five years ago. His father is Capt. Butler Dilley, well known throughout the county. He is a grandson of the late Oliver Pettebone, and related to the

Pettebones located along the west side of the Susquehanna from Kingston to Pittston, portions of the properties having been occupied since before the massacre at Wyoming. The Dilleys are a large family and all Republicans. The nominee lived in Washington city for a number of years, but the greater portion of his life has been passed on the Oliver Pettebone homestead, near Luzerne. At present he lives in Kingston Borough. Since attaining his majority he has been an active Republican, always interesting himself in the contests and being on the side with the best men. He served two years in the county commissioners, office as assistant clerk, but at present is engaged in the publication of the *Wyoming Valley Times*, of which paper he is editor and business manager. He taught in the public schools for several terms.

#### WYOMING COAL MEASURES.

*Interesting Description of the Sub-Strata as Viewed by the Geologist—A Rocky Basin a Quarter of a Mile Deep.*

Geographically, the Wyoming Valley extends from Shickshinny to Pittston; topographically, it extends from Shickshinny to Scranton; geologically, it extends from Shickshinny to Carbondale, a distance of 50 miles. Its general appearance as viewed, for instance, from Prospect Rock is that of a spacious vale fading on both hands into the haze of distance, holding, dimly seen in its northeastern extremity, the city of Scranton, and on the opposite horizon Shickshinny. The one anomaly of the landscape, when viewed by a geologist, is the presence of the Susquehanna River as an element of the scenery. The course of the stream is entirely independent of the stratigraphical structure of the region. It enters the valley at Pittston only after cutting transversely through the mountains north of that place. It then curves for itself a desultory course over the coal measures as far as Nanticoke, where, passing through a notch in the conglomerate, it enters the region of red shale, and continues in that course until at Shickshinny it again breaks at right angles across the trend of the mountain range. The height of the river above the level of the sea is about 540 feet. The mountains encircling the valley are from 1,200 to 2,000 feet above sea level.

The Northern Coal Field, consisting of one long concave basin, may be compared to a boat whose stem rests a little north of Carbondale, and stern somewhat south of Shickshinny, and whose gunwales are the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston mountains. The length of this canoe would be more than 50 miles; the width at Carbondale, 1 mile; at Scranton,

4 miles and at Kingston,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Taking the Mammoth Bed to be the floor of the boat, its depth would be 800 feet below sea level. The same bed where it outcrops at slope No. 2, of the Kingston Coal Co., and at the Hollenback Slope, below Prospect Rock, however, rises to the height of 755 feet above sea-level, so that the real depth of the boat is 1,575 feet.

The coal measures themselves are encased in an all-enveloping bed of Pottsville conglomerate, which forms a high and protecting rim surrounding the valley. Around every coal basin, also, it is always observed that there is a second or a parallel enfolding ridge of mountains formed of Pocono sandstone, while between these two ridges there is a thick bed of Mauch Chunk Red Shale which is generally eroded into a narrow valley.

All the strata of Wyoming Valley which come to the surface in its precincts belong, therefore to the Paleozoic Era and to the Devonian and Carboniferous Periods. The townships north of Kingston Mountain show the Catskill formation, with here and there a glimpse of the Chemung. These strata are of variable thicknesses, and are easily recognizable from their lithological characteristics. At Campbell's Ledge and in other gaps both in the northern and southern ridges, these formations are made accessible to examination. If we were to traverse a straight line from Harvey's Lake to Bear Creek, the country for some miles would be first of Catskill sandstone. Perhaps in the lowlands along Toby's Creek we would cross the Chemung. Ascending the northern side of Kingston Mountain, we would find ourselves when at the summit to be on Pocono sandstone. If we were unacquainted with the country, we would next expect to find a narrow valley in the Red Shale. But the law in this case fails to work, and we find instead, a narrow plateau of the same material. Crossing this, we come to the Pottsville Conglomerate, and behold 1,000 feet beneath us, the wonderful prospect of Wyoming. Departing from the conglomerate, we next cross the outcrops of the coal measures, with their 14 veins of coal, and traverse the drift formations of the Kingston Flats. Ascending Wilkes-Barre Mountain we would again pass over the coal outcrops, arrive at the conglomerate summit, cross a narrow valley in the shale, and come to the great Pocono plateau and thus to Bear Creek.

The Wyoming Basin, owing to its comparative remoteness from the centre of maximum disturbance, is not so broken up by flexures as are the basins of Carbon and Schuylkill Counties. Its general character is that of one great synclinal, the coal seams outcropping on each side before they have

an opportunity to reach their proper anticlinals. The floor of this Carboniferous trough is by no means symmetrical. It is crumpled into many rolls that run in long diagonals across the basin in nearly parallel lines, forming, as it were, many smaller, or local basins. The number of small anticlinals existing in the sub-strata is consequently great, and many of them are detected only with much difficulty. These undulations, or saddles, as they approach Carbondale, diverge more and more from the general direction of the valley, but become proportionately smaller in the steepness of their anticlinals with each advancing wave. The anticlinals which originate in the southern mountain, become sharper as they approach the center of the valley, and die out along the line of the Susquehanna. Those anticlinals originating in the northern ridge are supposed to have the same characteristics, but owing to the large accumulations of drift on the surface, the topographical evidences are very meagre. The Geological Survey has already described 40 of these troughs, and we are informed that each of these is marked again by a secondary series of anticlinals which, though but slightly observable in a map, are of vast importance in a mine.

The thickness of the coal measures varies greatly. The deepest part of the basin is in the vicinity of the Dundee Shaft, near Nanticoke, where 1,700 feet of coal strata are developed. The names of the principal seams as they are met in descending No. 4 shaft of the Kingston Coal Co., with their average thicknesses, is as follows:

Orchard vein.....	4½ feet
Lance vein.....	8¼ feet
Hillman vein.....	10 feet
Five Foot vein.....	5 feet
Four Foot vein.....	4 feet
Six Foot vein.....	6 feet
Eleven Foot vein.....	11 feet
Cooper vein.....	7¼ feet
Bennet vein.....	12 feet
Rose vein.....	10 feet
Red Ash vein.....	9 feet

The total thickness of coal is therefore about 90 feet. These coal measures are composed of softer material than are the strata of the southern basins, but it is believed that they are nevertheless identical.

Prof. White says: "Although Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton are distant from each other twenty miles, the same coal beds can be recognized at the two places, showing that they once spanned the wide rock-arch of the Wapwallopen valley, that all the coal fields were once united; that the slow erosion of ages has spared to the people of Pennsylvania but a small fraction of the mineral which once covered the entire area of the State."

The magnificent force of these eroding agencies is well proven by the presence of the fine striae upon Panoscoot Knob which is 2220 feet high and is only nine miles north of the edge of the terminal moraine. Near the same summit, on Catskill sandstone, is a large white boulder of Pottsville Conglomerate, measuring 9x6x4½ feet, that well attests the thickness of the glacier at that point. But it is impossible to determine from the data so far accumulated the real action and direct result of the glacial age.

The phenomena of the glacial age are not harder to comprehend, however, than are the peculiarities of the sedimentary deposits in the Paleozoic Era.

The Pottsville Conglomerate formation, as is understood, is the rocky cradle which supports the coal measure. Why is it that at Tamaqua the thickness of this millstone grit is 1,191 feet, while at Wilkes-Barre it is but 96 feet? Numerous theories are advanced, but it is hard to determine which is the correct one. The same unevenness of this formation is noticed everywhere in the anthracite region. The reason may be that there is a non-conformability in the surface of the underlying shale, or that there is a non-conformability between individual strata of the conglomerate measures, or it is possible that the phenomenon is the result of local currents existing at the time of deposition. Prof. Lesley says: "The variable thickness of the conglomerate must be discussed on one of two hypotheses; either we must surmise extraordinary and unaccountable variations in the quality of sand and gravel deposited on neighboring parts of red shale sea bottom; or, we must apply the mechanical law, that the folding of a plastic mass shifts all parts of the mass to allow of its accommodation in a smaller space."—*W. George Powell in Scranton Argus.*

#### Our Annual Directory.

The size of our city, as well as its growth, is well shown by an examination of the new directory, just distributed by J. E. Williams. It contains 12,749 names, an excess of 2,027 over the directory of a year ago. There are 4,151 names which were not in last year's issue and of the names a year ago 2,124 have been dropped. Of the 12,740 names contained in this issue only about half are to be found in the edition of last year without some alteration. Mr. Williams finds that the multiplying of the names in his directories by 2½ gives the population. This gives Wilkes-Barre a population of 35,060, and an increase during the year of 5,574, certainly a very healthy showing.

## SAMUEL MEREDITH.

Dr. Hollister Writes an Interesting Chapter Concerning This Revolutionary Officer Who Located in the Wilderness of Northern Pennsylvania.

[Letter to the Editor.]

A century, or even half a century, ago there was no name more familiar in Northern Pennsylvania than that of Meredith. When the villages of Montrose, Dundaff, Belmont and Milford emerged from the wilderness this name, above all others, commanded attention and respect. Such erroneous impressions, however, in reference to Samuel have crept into print that a brief, authentic account of this gentleman from the diary of T. Meredith Maxwell, M. D., of 368 East 72d Street, New York, with that of his family, is highly desirable.

He was born in England in 1741. According to exact data he was major in Gen. Cadwallader's Philadelphia battalion, which sided Gen. Washington in 1776-77 at Trenton and Princeton. After the march to Morristown in 1777, Meredith was commissioned a brigadier general. A letter of his written from Morristown Jan. 9, 1777, one week after the battle of Princeton, is still extant. In it he speaks of the hardships endured by Washington and his great "stroke" of generalship in "our march from Trenton to Prince Town." He was a member of the Continental Congress and the Colonial Legislature of Pennsylvania. He held for a short time the office of Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia. In 1789 Washington appointed him the first treasurer of the United States. He held this important office for 12 years and when he resigned it Thomas Jefferson wrote him a letter of regret and recommendation. His father, Reese Meredith, was an Englishman by birth. His silver service was marked with a crest of the Merediths, an old Welsh family of ancient lineage. It was a demi-lion rampant, collared and chained. The family in Ireland, called Meredyth, have the same crest at the present time. The name was originally Meredydd. Meredith was president of the Welsh Society for the Promotion of Emigration to America. Samuel was a gentleman of means and culture. Geo. Clymer, his brother-in-law, was associated with him in business in Philadelphia. In the early part of the century they purchased many thousand acres of wild land in Northern Pennsylvania for a song, for speculative purpose. Samuel settled in Belmont, Wayne Co., which was laid out as the manor tract of Meredyths. He established an ashery for making pearl-ash, developed a village in the wilderness beyond the confines of civ-

ilization, and had he lived would have built a large place, and there would have been no Mt. Pleasant town as now.

The rage for land speculation at this time ruined the genial Robert Morris and even threatened Samuel Meredith, the Drinkers and other distinguished Pennsylvanians who had invested in the wild lands of upper Pennsylvania. Samuel located here in 1812 and he died in 1817, before the first coal era began in the Lackawanna Valley under the impulse of Wurtess.

Trees six inches in diameter grew over his neglected grave until 1877, when the writer, through the columns of the *Soranton Republican*, called public attention to it and then Dr. Rodney Harnes, of Mt. Pleasant, took a party to the grave and put it in proper condition. This Belmont property, if it had been managed properly after the death of Samuel, would have yielded immense heritage to his descendants. Thomas, the only son of Samuel, was a man of superior endowments. After the death of his father and after the Wurtesses had begun mining coal in the 10<sup>th</sup> east where Carbondale now stands, Thomas moved over the Moosic Mountain, hewed out the wood-side a mile below it, erected a fine mansion and after a while he engaged in the mining of coal. A rupture of friendly relations between the Wurtess and Meredith occurring early, was fatal to the prosperity of the latter gentleman. The Wurtesses controlled the railroad and there was no other outlet for coal. Meredith procured a charter for a railroad, but it was never matured in his day. While Thomas lived no coal could be found down the Lackawanna a foot below Meredith's fence owing to animosities thus engendered. His home on the Lackawanna was the most hospitable and cultured one found in the valley half a century ago and it was known and noted by every passer for its cheerful outlook.

His son Samuel, born here, inherited all the kind and generous traits, but none of the business characteristics and economy of his father. He lived a fast, easy life. He invested his money in a hotel at Jessup and in the now abandoned Jessup R.R., and it vanished like the morning dew. He died penniless in Philadelphia. Belmont, the once famous place for Philadelphians, is now one of Goldsmith's deserted villages with but a single dwelling standing upon its former site. Mt. Pleasant is about a mile away.

H. HOLLISTER.

The Meredith Gravestone.

The following letter has been received from William Wright, of Pleasant Mount, Wayne Co., and the same properly supple-

ments the Meredith article by Dr. Hollister:  
**ERROR RECORDED:** Samuel Meredith's grave is marked by a marble slab, with the following inscription:

"Samuel Meredith  
 Died  
 February the tenth  
 1817

In the 76th year of his age."

The grave of his wife is also marked by a marble slab, with the following:

"Here lie the Remains of  
 Margaret Meredith  
 Widow of Samuel Meredith  
 Born Dec. 18th, 1753  
 Died Sept. 23d, 1820.

This stone is inscribed as a tribute by her children to the memory of an affectionate and respected parent."

On the 4th of July, 1877, a large number of the citizens of this village met on the ground and cleaned up the little cemetery and straightened up the stones, etc.; and proceedings were then inaugurated for the purpose of erecting a monument more worthy of the man and the position he occupied as the first Treasurer of the United States. An organization was formed and application made to Congress for an appropriation, which failed. These proceedings attracted wide attention at the time, and seem to have led to the inference that the grave is unmarked.

On last Decoration Day a delegation from the G. A. R. Post proceeded to the cemetery at Belmont and placed flowers upon the General's grave. w. w.

Pleasant Mount, Aug. 31, 1887.

#### Further Meredith Correspondence.

Reference was made by Dr. Hollister in a recent issue of the RECORD to Dr. Thomas Meredith Maxwell, of New York, who had gathered some material relative to General Thomas Meredith. The editor of the RECORD addressed a note to Dr. Maxwell asking him among other things if he is a relative of our former esteemed townsman, the late Volney Lee Maxwell, Esq. His reply is as follows:

I am a grand-nephew of Volney Lee Maxwell to whom you refer. He was a good, if not a great man, and I always remember him with affection and reverence. Wilkes-Barre is my native city, but it is a long time since I have made it an abiding visit. I am fond of biographical and historical research and that is how I happened to investigate my maternal genealogy. My earliest recollections are associated with the old Meredith cottage, as it was called, at Carbondale, Penn. Thomas Meredith, after whom I was named, was a native of Philadelphia. In his early days he knew Washington, as did his father (Samuel), and his grandfather

Reese, who was born in Radnor County, Wales, in 1705. There is a reference to the two latter in Watson's Annals of Philadelphia, speaking of their intimacy with the Pater Patrie. The family had a portrait of him, painted by Stuart, of which I have a reproduction.

Samuel Meredith was born at Philadelphia, Penn'a., and was a prominent and wealthy citizen of that city.

The old family name, as a patronymic, is now extinct in this country. Thomas Meredith was my mother's father, and my grandfather. The family which once stood so well has been unfortunate beyond precedence. Everything lost and ruined, except some of the old plate and rare autograph letters. Reese Meredith is said to have come to this country in 1780. He and his son Samuel were both signers of the "non-importation resolutions," Philadelphia, 1765.

I enclose my original sketch printed for private distribution, from which Dr. Hollister drew his items. I do not seek any notoriety in this respect, and hope that you will excuse these details.

T. MEREDITH MAXWELL.

358 East 72d Street.

REV. H. E. HAYDEN, OF WILKES-BARRE.

[Letter to the Editor.]

Dr. Hollister doubtless will pardon a correction of his interesting paper in the RECORD on Samuel Meredith. Mr. Meredith was a son of Reese Meredith, a native of Herefordshire, England, who came to Philadelphia 1730, m. 1738 Martha, dau. of John Carpenter, and had born, not in England, but in Philadelphia, at least three children:

1. Elizabeth m. Christ Church, Philadelphia, Moh. 18, 1765, Hon. George Clymer, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

2. Ann m. Christ Church, June 1, 1773, Hon. Henry Hill, of the Constitutional Conv. of Pennsylvania, 1776.

3. Samuel, the first Treasurer of the United States, born on the corner of Second and Walnut streets, Philadelphia, 1741, m. Christ Church, May 21, 1772, Margaret Cadwallader.

No complete history of the family has yet appeared, but "Keith's Provincial Councilors of Pennsylvania, 1733-1776," pp. 394-396, gives the family of Samuel Meredith; and a very full, accurate and interesting sketch of Samuel, by his kinsman, Wharton Dickinson, late of Scranton, will be found *Magazine of American History*, iii., 555-563.

H. E. H.

MR. WRIGHT, OF PLEASANT MOUNT.

[Letter to the Editor.]

Permit me to add a few words concerning the Merediths, which are written, not in a

spirit of captious criticism but for the truth of history.

Mount Pleasant township was organized in 1798; the Cochecon and Great Bend turnpike was completed in 1811, and this point soon became the business centre of the town. The post office was established here and named "Pleasant Mount," and the Pleasant Mount Hotel was built by John Grauger in 1814, from which it will be seen that the village of Pleasant Mount began to grow and outstrip Belmont some six years before Gen. Meredith's death, and had he lived ten or fifteen years longer the course of events would not have been changed.

The credit of moving first in the matter of improving the little cemetery and instituting measures to erect a monument belongs to Miletus Brown and Henry Spencer. Dr. Harmes entered heartily into the plan when it was proposed, and when the organization alluded to in a former letter was formed Spencer was elected president, Harmes secretary and Brown treasurer.

Samuel Meredith, son of Thomas, was born at Belmont in 1828, and the family removed to the place below Carbondale in 1830, so that he was then about seven years old. He was several years younger than the writer, and I know from personal recollection that he was old enough to attend, and did attend the same school with myself in the school house which formerly stood in the valley of the Lackawaxen midway between Pleasant Mount and Belmont.

Belmont formerly comprised four dwelling houses; there are now two. The Meredith mansion, now occupied by J. W. Fowler, has been well taken care of and is in good condition. It narrowly escaped destruction in July last, being struck by lightning and the interior considerably damaged, but it was not set on fire. w. w.

PLEASANT MOUNT, Wayne Co., Sept. 15, '87.

#### Golden Wedding Anniversary.

One-half century ago Oct. 8 occurred the wedding of Caroline M. Swetland, eldest daughter of William Swetland of Wyoming, to Payne Pettebone, and the anniversary of the event was delightfully observed on Monday at the old home. The wedded couple began housekeeping at the place where they now reside. The house has of course been enlarged and repaired, but the site is the same and the occupancy by Mr. and Mrs. Pettebone has been continuous during the fifty years. They have had six children, only two of whom survive. One is a son in business with his father, the other is the wife of Allan H. Dickson, Esq. The anniversary was simple being attended by members of the family only. The most remarkable feature of the occasion was the presence of Mrs. Pettebone's mother, Mrs.

Catherine Swetland, aged 88, who is still strong and healthy, and who still keeps house in the old Swetland homestead where the wedding took place. In front of the Swetland homestead stands the water trough which was established by Mr. Swetland just fifty years ago this fall, and which for half a century has blessed the thirsty horses on the main road through the valley. The laying of the pipe in that trough was the first work done in the valley by Bester Payne, father of Hon. H. B. Payne. Bester Payne subsequently removed his pipe factory from Honesdale to Kingeton. The old store house of William Swetland & Co., where he and Mr. Pettebone carried on their large general store business in early times still stands. No mercantile business has been transacted there since 1860, but Mr. Pettebone has maintained his business office in the adjoining store office. In 1837 goods purchased in New York were sent by sloop to Rondout, thence by canal to Honesdale, thence by the gravity road to Carbondale and thence by team to Wilkes-Barre. From Philadelphia they went by Chesapeake and Delaware Canal to Havre de Grace, thence by Susquehanna Canal to Columbia and thence by Pennsylvania Canal to Wilkes-Barre. In pursuance of the provisions of Mr. Swetland's will the old Forty Fort church was repaired in 1886 and is now again being put in order by a committee of the Forty Fort Cemetery Association, of which Mr. Pettebone is chairman.

Mr. Pettebone is still actively engaged in business. He has a large plantation in Louisiana,—is in partnership with his son in the Wyoming Shovel Works under the firm name of P. Pettebone & Son, which is now a successful and thriving industry,—is a director in several banking institutions,—is one of the committee on the erection of the Nelson Memorial Hall at Kingeton and has besides many other enterprises of business and charity. He will be seventy-four years old next December.

There are few people now surviving who were present at the wedding although the assemblage was a large and gay one. The names of only five survivors can now be recalled. Thomas F. Atherton was groomsmen and the bridesmaid was Rosanna Shoemaker, now Mrs. Col. Ira Tripp, of Soranton, where there is a promise or a probability of a golden wedding not many months hence. The wedding took place at seven o'clock in the evening and the next morning the bride and groom started on their wedding journey, which was by carriage to New York and Philadelphia. This carriage was a buggy expressly hired for the trip. It took one month to make the journey and venison was frequently supplied at the stage stations on the route.

#### Half a Century in Journalism.

Capt. S. L. Ennis hands the *RECORD* a copy of the first issue of the *Public Ledger*, of Philadelphia. It bears date of March 25, 1836, and is well printed and almost free from typographical errors. It is a trifle more than one fourth as large as the *RECORD* and bears little semblance to the *Ledger* of to-day, though a few peculiarities are still retained, as headings in brackets "Reported for the *Public Ledger*." Unlike most newspaper ventures the *Ledger* began with an advertising patronage sufficient to ensure it a handsome future—it having one-half its space with advertisements, set solid, in small type. The editorial announcement occupies a column and a quarter, and the purpose of the *Ledger* was to furnish the worthy poor with a penny paper, there already being a plentiful sufficiency of higher priced journals. A police reporter and a collector of news had been employed and the publishers guaranteed publication for one year at least. The chief item of news was the report of mayor's court to which two full columns were devoted—the record of the preceding week. A local item states that four daily lines of stages between Philadelphia and Pittsburg are unable to carry all the passengers and in another column is an advertisement of a combined canal and railroad line between those cities. That Congress was almost the same then as now is shown by this item: "The Congressional news up to this date possesses not the slightest interest—Congress seems determined to fritter away its time, instead of rendering it profitable to the nation—shame on such tardy legislation."

#### A Pre-Historic Burial Ground.

Our former townsman, H. C. Wilson, now of Mt. Vernon, O., has the largest collection of Indian relics in Ohio. Nearly all were found on his own farm, Knox County, as well as neighboring counties, being particularly prolific in aboriginal remains. From the Mt. Vernon *Republican* we clip the following:

Licking County has long been noted for its richness in aboriginal remains, consisting of mounds, fortifications, etc., but recently in the vicinity of Homer, ten miles south of this city, there has been a discovery which taken in connection with the surrounding forts and mounds is one of the most wonderful which has yet been unearthed.

The find consists of an immense number of human skeletons, buried in a prominent heap, together with ancient pottery, arrows and spear heads, etc. The location is almost within the village of Homer, on the south bank of the creek and adjoining the cemetery.

The remains were exposed by the erosion of the bank of the stream caused by the late freshets. The condition of the remains clearly show that the place was not a regular burial ground, but that the bodies are in all probability those of warriors, slain in some terrible battle at this place. The number and position of the skeletons precludes the possibility of anything but a battle to account for them, as there must be thousands heaped together in a huge trench. In the memory of those yet living there existed a large fortification adjoining the place where these bodies are found, but the creek has washed it away, and now by the same action brings to our gaze the remains of those who sent up their last defiant war whoop on this prehistoric battle ground.

#### An Institute Teacher Dead.

Mrs. Faith C. Hosmer died on the 31st of August, 1897, at her home in Rockford, Ill., after a severe illness of five days. For many years she was associate principal of the Wilkes-Barre Female Institute in connection with Miss E. H. Rookwell. She had been engaged in teaching for over fifty years and only ceased when overcome with the infirmities of old age. She was in the neighborhood of 70 years of age.

#### Has Taken Wilkes-Barre Papers 72 Years

CARBONDALE, Oct. 8, 1897.—EDITOR RECORD: Enclosed you will find one dollar, for which send RECORD OF THE TIMES another year. At the commencement of the war of 1812, I was a constant reader of Charles Miner's *Gleaner*—for a ten year old boy, I felt a great interest in the "War New." That feeling continued with me to the end of the war in 1815, and at that time I became a subscriber to both Mr. Miner's and Stauben Battle's papers. On the 1st of March 1825, I left Wilkes-Barre and settled down in the village of Dundaff—staid there 23 years, then moved to Carbondale, first of April 1847, and in all these 72 years I have taken at least two papers from my native town—Wilkes-Barre. In 1834 I became a subscriber to the *New Yorker*, published by Horace Greely & Co., afterwards the name was changed to *Log Cabin*, and finally in 1840, I think, it was changed again and called the *New York Tribune*. It was at first issued weekly, then semi-weekly and finally daily, and I still consider it Horace Greely's paper, and have from 1834 up to 1897, 53 years. When I get talking or writing on these old matters, I hardly know when or where to stop. D. YAMINGTON.



## AN OLD-TIME MILITARY COMPANY.

A Hitherto Unpublished Muster Roll Copied from an Ancient Diary of Christopher Hurlbut of Hanover Township.

"Rolls of the First Company of the 5th Regiment of militia in the State of Connecticut, under the command of Captain John Franklin:

Captain—John Franklin.  
 Lieutenants—Daniel Gore, Roewel Franklin, Nathan Kingsley.  
 Ensign—John Hagemen.  
 Sergeants—Daniel Ingersoll, William Hibbard, William Jackson, John Hurlbut, Jr.  
 Corporals—Benjamin Baley, Joseph Elliot, Henry Harding, John Fuller.  
 Drummer—William Houck.  
 Fifer—William Smith, Jr.

## RANK AND FILE.\*

"Am Bennett,	Nathan Carey,
Isaac Bennett,	John Carey,
Elisha Bennett,	David Brown,
Ishmael Bennett, Jr.,	James Sutton,
Oliver Bennett,	Abel Yarrington,
Josiah Pell,	Jiles Slocum,
William Ross,	William Leuterman,
Frederick Frey,	Isaac Vannorman,
John Spalding,	John Borien,
Ephraim Tyler,	Nichodemus Traverser,
David Hrewster,	Derick Westbrook,
William Fish,	Leonard Westbrook,
George Charles,	William Williams,
John Leuterman,	Heuben Harrington,
Joseph Vannorman,	Clement West,
Daniel Sherwood,	Preserved Cooley,
Joseph Thomas,	Nathaniel Walker,
Richard Inman,	Samuel Gore,
John Inman,	John Gore,
Edward Inman,	Benjamin Carey,
Edward Spencer,	Avery Gore,
Walter Spencer,	Nathan Wade,
Joseph Corey,	James Grimes,
Ebenezer Hibbard,	Thomas Reed.
	Jabez Sill, Jr."

This company was formed, certainly, previous to June 4, 1782, for the defence of Wyoming from the Indians, during the Revolutionary War, after the Massacre of Wyoming. This negative date is fixed by the circumstance that on the same page of the rolls, after the name of "Thomas Reed," the last one on the roll, and immediately under it a *diary* is commenced, beginning the 4th of June—and in that diary, going on day by day, is:

"July 8—Showery; went into the woods to get shingles, but got none. Meers, Jameson and Chapman killed by the Indians on the road about half a mile from the house." That was his own house, the Hurlbut house, Christopher Hurlbut being the diarist.

July 9th—Clear; attended the funeral of the slain men.

10th—Clear and cool; hoed corn.

11th—Clear, hoed some and went to Nathan Carey's wedding.

12th—Clear, on the same business, at night came home."

Without going any farther into the diary, we'll only say here that John "Jameson" and Asa "Chapman" were killed by Indians on the 8th of July, 1782 in the road at the "Hanover Green," now Hanover Cemetery.

The "Roll is not marked as if it had been kept by the first sergeant for use in a military way. This one is supposed to have been kept by Christopher Hurlbut who was not a member of the company though his brother John was; and as John Hurlbut's name is put down with a "Junior" to it, it is to be supposed that his father was still living. John Hurlbut, Sr., died in March, 1782, so that this roll is probably older than that. There is no date to it.

H. B. PLUMB.

Note—Mr. Miner's History of Wyoming, pp. 247 and 485, states that Nathan Kingsley was killed by Indians in Wilkes-Barre, Nov. 2, 1778. His father had previously been taken prisoner, and he, (the son) was living with Jonathan Slocum, and, according to Mr. Miner, was only fifteen years of age. This could not have been the Lieut. Nathan Kingsley of this company. Had his father escaped from the Indians and returned previous to the beginning of the year 1782? Fifteen of these men were Hanover men.

P.

## A Century of Legal Life.

A correspondent of the RECORD calls attention to the fact that this is the centennial year of the opening of the first court held for Luzerne County, and asks that the following from Pearce's Annals, be published:

"On the 27th of May, 1787, Timothy Pickering, James Nesbitt, Obadiah Gore, Nathan Kingsley, Benjamin Carpenter, Matthias Hollenback and William Hooker Smith, who had been commissioned justices of the court of common pleas, etc., as provided in the first Constitution of the State, assembled at the house of Colonel Zebulon Butler, at the corner of Northampton and River Streets, Wilkes-Barre, and proclamation being made by Lord Butler, high sheriff, for all persons to keep silence, the commissions of the county officers were read, and the oaths of office were administered by Timothy Pickering and Col. Nathan Denison. This was the first court held for Luzerne County. The duties of prothonotary, register, recorder and clerk of court were performed by Timothy Pickering, who was a lawyer of fine ability. Rosewell Welles, Ebenezer Bowman, Fajnam Catlin and William Nichols were admitted and sworn as attorneys-at-law."

**THE SHORTEST WILL ON RECORD.**

**Some Information as to the Testatrix and to Her Father, Distinguished as an Editor and as a Statesman.**

The supposition of the *Scranton Republican* that a certain will of 16 words filed with the register of wills of Lackawanna County, is the shortest will on record is incorrect. What is believed to be the shortest will on record is one filed with the register of wills at Wilkes-Barre. It comprises, signature included, nine words and is as follows:

"Emily R. Miner is my heir.

SARAH K. MINER."

The testatrix was the blind daughter of Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming Valley, and the beneficiary is her niece, the eldest daughter of William P. Miner, founder of the *RECORD*. This will, which was filed Aug. 19, 1874, was written with lead pencil on a sheet of note paper and was contained in an envelope on which was written in pencil

"Read this when I am dead."

Upon being filed, the will was accompanied by an affidavit of Jesse Thomas, brother-in-law of the testatrix and father of Isaac M. Thomas, averring that he was positive the instrument was in the writing of Sarah K. Miner.

Miss Miner was an exceedingly gifted woman, her deprivation of vision being counterbalanced by a marvelous memory. When her father was engaged in collecting data for his forthcoming history of Wyoming, his blind daughter accompanied him on his visits to the surviving pioneers of the trying days of 1778, listened closely to their narratives, and recalled them to her father upon returning home to put his data on paper. She learned to read by touching the large wooden types in her father's printing office. When sent to an institution for teaching the blind, her parents were informed that she was the first child ever admitted who was able to read. She was not born blind, but lost her sight very early in childhood.

Her father, who was born in Connecticut in 1780, came to Wilkes-Barre at the age of 19 and in 1802 joined his brother, Asher Miner, in the publication of the *Luzerne Federalist*, successor to the *Wilkes-Barre Gazette*. Two years later Asher withdrew and went to Doylestown where he established the *Bucks County Intelligencer*, which still carries his honored name as founder. Charles Miner continued publishing the *Federalist* until 1810, when he sold to Sidney Tracy and Steuben Butler, who changed its name to the *Gleaner*, Charles, however, continuing to contribute to its editorial columns until 1816, when the

office was sold to Isaac A. Chapman. Mr. Miner then engaged in Philadelphia journalism for a brief space, going thence to West Chester in 1817, where he established the *Village Record*, publishing the same for 17 years, his brother Asher having meanwhile joined him as partner in 1826. The *Village Record*, like his brother's *Intelligencer*, was well founded and is still a vigorous journal, published by the same family (Evans), to whom the Miner brothers sold in 1884.

[Since the above was in type we are informed by the present publishers that upon going to West Chester Mr. Miner bought the *Chester County Federatist*, (Aug. 6, 1817) and changed its name to *Village Record* Jan. 7, 1818.—EDROR.]

Charles Miner was distinguished, not only as an editor but as a statesman and as a philanthropist. His contributions to the *Gleaner* attracted wide spread attention, particularly a series entitled "Essays from the Desk of Poor Robert the Scribe," some of which were attributed to Benjamin Franklin.

Capt. James P. Dennis has handed the *RECORD* an autograph letter written from Washington in 1815 to Judge Jesse Fell, of Wilkes-Barre, by Abraham Bradley. It has the following reference to a series of articles then being written by Charles Miner:

"P. S.—The editor of the *Gleaner* has acquired the highest reputation among all ranks of people and served his country and the cause he has espoused, at least equal to any editor in the United States. The humor and pleasantry with which he fills his columns, serve more to the promotion of good morals than the most powerful arguments of the superb genius. And when he touches upon politics, under the signature of 'Uncle John,' the humor and sarcasm are almost irresistible. His productions are copied into most of the papers from Maine to Ohio, and some of those to the South. Even the *National Intelligencer* cannot withhold, with all his Democratic austerity, from republishing some pieces which have no acrimony against his beloved system of Democracy. Every one is charmed."

The writer of the letter referred to was a lawyer in Wilkes-Barre at one time. He was a graduate at Judge Reeve's law school in Litchfield, Conn., and was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas in Luzerne. A son, Abraham Bradley, Jr., was Assistant Postmaster General under Washington, practically Postmaster General.

While in Congress, to which Mr. Miner was twice elected, serving from 1824 to 1828, he introduced a bill for the suppression of

the slave trade in the District of Columbia and boldly advocated the measure contrary to the advice of timid friends, but the slave power was as yet too strong and the bill was defeated. Mr. Miner was a strong advocate of protection to American industry, and his correspondence embraced such distinguished names as Webster, Clay and John Quincy Adams.

Mr. Miner died near Wilkes-Barre at the age of 85.

#### SOME UNPUBLISHED RECORDS.

**Diary of Deacon John Hurlbut—His Trip to Wyoming and Back to Connecticut—Early Surveys.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** William S. and Myron Hurlbut, of Arkport, N. Y., have loaned me some ancient papers or documents relating to the early settlement of Wyoming and Delaware lands. The papers, or some of them, are somewhat worn, and some parts have been torn off and lost, so that this copy will not begin at the commencement of the work, but such as it is I send you.

The date of the transactions mentioned is probably 1773, except the meeting in Norwich, Connecticut. It is the work of "Deacon" John Hurlbut. I hope some of your readers can tell where the towns of Parkbury and Huntington were or are, and also where the district of Groton Susquehanna Purchase was.

H. B. PLUMB.

"Afternoon Mr. Chapman drew the plan of intervale. These intervale near the river are generally very good, being overflowed frequently in winter, the quantity of these low lands in both towns is about 4 or 5 thousand acres that is dry enough to bear English grass, to which may be added about, of land contiguous, 3 thousand of swamp, part of it of \*\* good kind and the rest a bad kind, being composed \*\* willow or bog meadow \*\* acres of which the \*\* are about 3 feet high and entirely clear of trees or bush. The timber on the best part is on ye south end beach, elm, shagbarks, walnut, maple, ash, birch, black and white oak, but towards the middle of the town is chiefly walnut; some white pine and hemlock on points and higher lands, butternut also and chestnut; the smaller growth is thorn; black, speckled and common alder, spice wood, hazle and some other small trash. Of the herbe or grass kind are mandrakes, nettles, wild grass or joint, wild oate, spikenard, balm, and a variety of other kind of herbe. Gooseberry bushes also . . . and other weeds to which low lands are incident.

Thursday, May ye 20th—A little wet, but warm and sunshine about 10 o'clock.

This day was spent in planning the intervale lots.

Friday May ye 21st. Layed out 8 lots of intervale in Parkbury next adjoining those laid out which are No. 30 to 37. At night drew 17 lots. My lot was 32.

There is in this town 5 houses, about 30 men and lads, 5 women. The town is situate on ye side of an hill facing toward ye N. W. about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from ye river. The lands from ye meadow generally rise a little too high for conveniency altho in many places the ascent is very easy, the timber is chiefly white pine but in some white oak, but not of ye best kind, and ye land moaty too stony, but far from being ledgy, and about a mile and one-half from ye fort the intervale or river land is barked with vast large plains, with a few yellow pine. This land is sandy, but entirely free from stone, covered with a sort of vine and wintergreen. The bark lands and hills are well watered with little brooks and springs.

Saturday, May ye 22nd. Bounded out a number of our lots, and my lot in particular. This days work was very bad, for after wading all day came on a shower at night and we had near 4 miles to travel thro wet bushes.

Sabbath day, May ye 23rd. Attended meeting with Capt. Parke.

The number and names of lots laid out and drawn:

Elisha Gifford . . . . . 1	Nethanel Gates . . . . . 24
Abel N. Kimbal . . . . . 2	Daniel Denton . . . . . 25
Capt. Silas Park . . . . . 3	David Gates . . . . . 26
Benjamin Lathrop . . . . . 4	Isaac Parish . . . . . 27
Kendrel Edwards . . . . . 5	Ezekiel Yerington . . . . . 28
Gilbert Denton . . . . . 6	Hozekiah Bingham . . . . . 29
Ephraim Killam . . . . . 7	Capt. Silas Park . . . . . 30
William Edwards . . . . . 8	Lebens Lathrop . . . . . 31
Jonathan Haskal . . . . . 9	John Hurlbut . . . . . 32
Capt. Silas Park . . . . . 10	William Pellet . . . . . 33
Elijah Park . . . . . 11	John Pellet . . . . . 34
Samuel Hallett . . . . . 12	Walter Kimbal . . . . . 35
Jephthah Killam . . . . . 13	Stephen Parish . . . . . 36
John Westbrook . . . . . 14	Eliab Farnam . . . . . 37
Mattias Button . . . . . 15	Uriah Chapman . . . . . 38
John Analey . . . . . 16	Capt. Silas Park . . . . . 39
Capt. Zeb. Parrish . . . . . 17	Ezra Tracy . . . . . 40
Reuben Jones . . . . . 18	Jeremiah Park . . . . . 41
Deliverance Adams . . . . . 19	Jacob Kimbal . . . . . 42
James Adams . . . . . 20	Deacon Griswold . . . . . 43
Elijah Witter . . . . . 21	Zadock Killam . . . . . 44
James Dye . . . . . 22	Obadiah Gore, Jr. . . . . 45
Abner Newton . . . . . 23	

Monday, May ye 24th.—About 10th clock, passed Laquanack River and took my journey to Sasquahanah, in company with Capt. Parish & Mr. Benajah Park, went that day to Laquanar, about—32 miles.

Tuesday, May ye 25th.—Visited Mr. Johnson at Chapman Mills, went to Wilkbury Fort—3 miles. In ye afternoon went over to Capt. Gore's in Kingston, then returned to Wilkbury. Went up to Abraham's Plains. Again returned to ye Fort. At a town meeting at night; returned to King-

ston to Benedict Satterly's. Slept there that night.

Wednesday, May ye 20th—Went down on ye fields to Plymouth and then back to Capt. Gores, then returned to Wilkbury again. Visited Mr. Johnson. Was with him about two hours and a half. Found him in a low disconsolate state, but looking like rain rid for Laquanar Fort. Came on a very black heavy cloud of thunder and rain in ye shower reached ye fort. After ye rain rid to Bason's, about two miles. Tarried there that night.

Thursday, May ye 27th—Came thro Oapow's great hill and great swamp at night; came to Hallet's Ferry and so to ye fort.

Friday, May ye 20th. Settled my affairs at Parkbury with ye settlers.

Saturday, May ye 29th. Took my journey towards home; tarried that night on ye east of Delaware River, at Isaac Fanarties, in ye Minisinks.

Sunday, May ye 30th. Rode to Honas Deikers; breakfasted there; afternoon rid 20 miles to Owen's.

Monday, May ye 31st. To walking thence to North River about noon, thence up ye Fishkills to Bakers in ye Patents.

Tuesday, June ye 1st. Thro ye Patents kent into Litchfield to Mack Neals; these 3 days very hot and dry; especially the last."

MISCELLANEOUS MEMORANDA.

Kingston on ye Susquehanna, May ye 26th, 1773.

Received of John Hurlbut ye sum of one pound, ten shillings and 3d. I say received for me. STEPHEN HURLBUT.

1,241  
14

1,255 acres and 35 rods. A streight line from ye bounds at each end of ye town of Huntington, leaveth 1,255 acres on ye east side and taketh off the town of Parkbury 569 acres. 1,255 less 569—686.

My cost of purchase and expense on ye affairs of the Western Lands. Februy ye 2nd, A. D. 1773:

Purchased $\frac{1}{2}$ a Susquahannah		
Right cash.....	£5	0s 0d
Paid Capt. Joseph Hurlbut.....	0	3 0
Expense.....	0	5 0
March ye 15th took a deed of gift of ye Delaware 2nd purchase and part of ye 1st purchase deed....	0	1 0
Expense.....	0	5 0
May ye 10th paid to Capt. Park for a draught of that grant.....	0	18 0
For lotting out.....	0	9 0
For lotting out ye town of Huntington.....	0	8 0
August ye 12th, at a meeting of said town for drawing lots. Ex-		

pence.....	0	5	0
March ye 15th and 16th, 1774, at a meeting in Norwih respecting ye Delaware rights. Expen....	0	10	0

		8	4	0
Received of Captain Hurlbut....	0	8	0	

Remains .....	£8	1s	0d
Oct., 1774, paid to my brother Stephen, for cost and expenses in surveying and lotting my rights in ye district of Groton Susquehanna purchase .....	£0	12s	0d

West Branch History.

The October issue of the *Historical Journal*, published by Col. J. F. McGinness at Williamsport, is full of interesting matter. Samuel Maclay's journal is continued at great length.

Promise is given of an illustrated article on "Old Fort Augusta," which stood at the confluence of the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna at what is now Sunbury. Persons possessing relics of the fort, incidents or reminiscences of its early defenders, are requested to notify the editor.

Another promised article of interest is the Wyoming Valley and a sketch of Methodism on the North Branch, by O. F. Hill, of Hazleton.

The editor speaks thus kindly of the *Historical Record*:

"The *Historical Record*, published at Wilkes-Barre, improves as it grows older. The current number is exceedingly valuable, being filled with choice matter relating to early times in the Wyoming region. An illustrated article entitled "Relics of the Red Men" is alone worth a year's subscription, which is only \$1.50."

We regret to note that Col. Meginnees has concluded not to publish a revised edition of his valuable "History of the West Branch Valley," owing to improbability of making it a financial success. It only remains therefore, for persons interested in that subject to become subscribers to the author's *Historical Journal*, published monthly at \$2 a year.

Kind Words from Dr. Egle.

Of the *Historical Record* the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, in its excellent notes and queries department says:

The *Historical Record*, of Wilkes-Barre, has reached its eleventh number. It is freighted with the antiquarian lore of the past, and the history of the present, thus making it one of the most valuable repositories, not only of Wyoming but of State information. The *Record* newspaper publishers are doing a good work, and we trust they may see their way clear to continue

this historical monthly for years to come. Their work has a permanent value to everybody.

#### EARLY SUSQUEHANNA NAVIGATION.

##### Cruise of the Ill Fated Steamboat Bearing the Name of the River—Contemporaneous Account of Her Destruction.

More than sixty years ago, before the advent of canals and railroads, the enterprising merchants of Baltimore comprehended the importance to their material business interests of facilitating the mode of transportation of the lumber, grain, iron and whisky trade of the Susquehanna Valley, then an important factor in the home traffic of that city, lying so conveniently at the lower extremity of Pennsylvania's rich agricultural and mineral centre. Large sums of money had been expended in removing obstructions in the rocky channel of our noble, (but rapid and impracticable for navigation) river below Columbia, so as to admit the passage of arks and rafts down stream on their way to tide. A canal had been constructed from Port Deposit, northward, in order that these up-river craft might avoid the shoals and dangerous reefs of the first ten miles above tide water, after the spring freshets had subsided, but as yet there was no satisfactory way of returning to the producer of incoming commerce such articles of merchandise as they would naturally require in return for their raw products of forest, field and mine.

It was decided to make the attempt to establish steamboat navigation on the river in order to overcome this serious obstacle in the way of exchange commerce. The first attempt at steamboat navigation above tide water was made in 1825. A small steamboat named the *Susquehanna*, had been built in Baltimore and towed up to Port Deposit in the spring of that year. The first mention we have in the newspapers of the day is found in the *Harrisburg Chronicle*, which says:

"The *Susquehanna* was expected at Columbia on Sunday night, Tuesday's reports were, that she had not got to Columbia. Eye-witnesses to her progress put the matter to rest on Wednesday; they had seen her a short distance above the head of the Maryland Canal with a posse of men tugging at the ropes, and when they had tugged nine miles gave up the job. So ended all the romance about the *Susquehanna*. She drew too much water (22 inches) for the purpose and started at the wrong point. Watermen say that the crookedness of the channel, with the rapidity of the current, makes it utterly impossible for a steamboat to ascend the

falls between the head of the canal and Columbia."

If any of our readers, in their boyhood days, ever engaged in the arduous, though exciting, labor of "running to tide" on lumber rafts, and then tramping back over Lancaster hills for a fresh start next morning, they will appreciate the force of the above editorial remark. For further particulars apply to W. N. Jennings, whilom river pilot through Turkey Hill, Barger's reef, Eshelman's sluice, etc.

The *Chronicle* article says further: "We have a report that Mr. Winchester, of Baltimore, has contracted for the building of a steamboat at York Haven. We also learn that the York Co. are making great progress with the sheet-iron steamboat, and that she will be launched about the 4th of July."

This sheet iron boat was called the *Codorus*, and early in April of the next year ascended the river as far as Binghamton, after which she returned to York Haven, her captain, a Mr. Elger, reporting that navigation of the *Susquehanna* by steam was impracticable.

Some of our older citizens doubtless remember to have seen her lying moored to the shore about abreast of the present Market Street sewer, and how the men, women and children of the old borough gathered on the common to admire so great a triumph in the art of marine architecture, and enjoy a ride to Forty Fort and return on the wonderful craft.

As regards the boat said to have been contracted for by Mr. Winchester, there seems to be some mystery. We find other newspaper mention of her saying that she was almost completed and would soon be ready to take to the water, and yet there is no certainty of her ever having been used in any way on the river. And again, we are not informed that the *Susquehanna* ever succeeded in passing the rapids below Columbia, and it is difficult to see how she could, and yet Mr. Pearce in his "Annals of Luzerne" says the *Susquehanna* was the identical boat that exploded her boiler at Berwick the next spring, while the Maryland commissioners in their official report give the name as the *Susquehanna and Baltimore*. It is just possible that the fatal explosion may have occurred on board Mr. Winchester's boat of that name, and that the original *Susquehanna* never succeeded in getting through the lower Rapids.

The *Susquehanna and Baltimore*, say the Maryland Commissioners, was built in the spring of 1825. (The *Susquehanna* was on the river in early spring) at the expense of a number of citizens of Baltimore, for the express purpose of making an experiment to navigate the waters of the *Susquehanna* above the Conewago Falls, and was placed

under the care of Capt. Cornwell, (Pearce says Collins), an experienced river pilot; she was accompanied on her trial trip on this portion of the river by a board of Commissioners of the State of Maryland, Meears, Patterson, Elliott and Morris, three distinguished citizens of Baltimore. Capt. Cornwell had already in March made several successful trips as far up as Northumberland and Danville on the North Branch and to Milton on the West Branch and returned to York Haven without accident. At noon on the 27th of April, 1823, the boat started from York Haven, having in tow a large keel boat capable of carrying a thousand bushels of wheat, and proceeded on her fatal trip, arriving at the Nescopeck Falls at 4 o'clock of May 3. At these falls there was an outer and an artificial inner channel of shallow water for the accommodation of rafts and arks. It was decided by Capt. Cornwell after consulting with other river men on board to try first the main, or deep water channel, as they feared the water might be too shallow in the artificial channel to allow the boat to pass. The current is very strong in the main channel, and the captain argued that if the boat would not stem it, that he could then drop back and try the other one. The boat made a halt in a small eddy below the falls on the east side of the river and some of the passengers went ashore; this was the case with the Maryland Commissioners.

The boat was directed into the main channel, and had proceeded perhaps two thirds of the distance through the falls, when she ceased to make further progress, the engine was stopped and she was permitted to drift back to the foot of the rapid, where she struck upon a wall dividing the artificial from the main channel, and at that instant one of her boilers exploded at both ends. The scene was as awful as the imagination can picture. Two of the passengers on board, named John Turk and Seber Whitmarsh, raftmen from Chenango, N. Y., were thrown into the river, where they met with an instant death, if not by the explosion, certainly by drowning in the swift current of the river; William Camp, a merchant from Owego, was fatally scalded by escaping steam. David Rose, of Chenango, N. Y., was also fatally injured. Quincy Maynard, the engineer, as stated in the account published in the *Danville Watchman* one week after the occurrence, was not expected to recover. Christian Brobst, of Catawissa, father of our late townsman S. D. Brobst, and Jeremiah Miller, of Juniata, were seriously injured. Messrs. Woodside, Colt and Underwood, of Danville, were more or less injured, as were Messrs. Barton

Hurley, Foster and Col. Paxton, of Catawissa, and Benjamin Edwards, of Braintrim, Luzerne Co. It was said by somebody on board that at the time of the explosion a passenger was holding down the lever of the safety valve, but why this should be done after the boat had ceased her efforts to pull through is difficult to conjecture. Thus ended this second attempt to navigate the Susquehanna by steam power. W. J.

#### Emanuel Marshall's Speedy Ancestor.

At the foot of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, on the way from Wilkes-Barre to Oliver's Mills, lives a well-known Wilkes-Barrean, Emanuel Marshall. He comes from an old pre-Revolutionary family, and he is fond of telling about the troublous times of the last century. His great-grandfather was one of the men who was employed by the Proprietary Government, just 150 years ago this September month, to participate in what has since been the historic walking purchase. Penn had bought a lot of land on the Delaware half a century before, but he was such an honest old Quaker that he would take no advantage of the Indians and so the three days' walk, which was to limit the purchase, was only such an one as Penn himself and the Indians could accomplish.

Not so scrupulous were his successors. They employed men who were famous for their abilities as fast walkers and they were to have a compensation of five pounds in money and 500 acres of land in the purchase. The limit of the purchase was to be a point as far distant as could be walked from sunrise of one day to noon of the next day. Of the three, Marshall was the only one who did not break down, he covering sixty miles. The Delaware Indians always considered that the Proprietaries had swindled them, nor would they relinquish the land until compelled by the Six Nations, six years later, to do so. The walk was undoubtedly one of the causes which afterwards led to war and bloodshed; and the first murder in the Province, Dr. Egle says in his *History of Pennsylvania*, was on the very land they believed themselves cheated out of. When the Surveyor General afterwards passed over this ground it took him four days to cover what Marshall had covered in a day and a half.

Of Marshall's companions one who broke down on the way never recovered from the strain, but lived only a few years. The second who also fell by the way died of exhaustion in three days. Marshall, who was a native of Bucks County, was a noted hunter and chain carrier. He lived and died on Marshall's Island in the Delaware, each the age of 90.

## TWO SUICIDES.

## Reminiscences Called up by a New York Lawyer's Visit in Search of Evidence.

A certain New York attorney has been in Wilkes-Barre in consultation with a number of our leading citizens on business that recalls the many interesting events that transpired in connection with the residence and experience of Jay Gould and his then partners in this county. Leupp, Lee & Co. was the name of the firm which had the famous controversy with Gould concerning the Gouldboro tannery with its pitched battles, its arrests, its long drawn out equity suits, its receivership, etc., all which ended in a small sum being secured to Leupp, Lee & Co. and in Gould's leaving the county with a borrowed \$5 bill in his pocket to pay his way back to New York whence he came here on his then disappointed search for a fortune.

It is noted as one of the tragic features of the association of these men that both Leupp and Lee afterwards suicided. The former was entertaining a number of his friends in New York, the conversation turned on firearms. Leupp left his guests and repaired to his own bed room up stairs. Here he took down from its usual resting place a remarkable sort of gun. He took it apart, carefully put it together again, and then deliberately blew his brains out with it.

Lee married his housekeeper after he left here and finally took up his residence at Orangeville, N. J. It was at this place he put an end to his life, a few years ago, but not, as in the other case, with any specially dramatic accompaniments. It is with reference to a dispute that has arisen under his will that the New York lawyer came here. The will is disputed on the ground that he was *non compos mentis*, as they say in law, and legally incapable of making a will, and the intention of the disputors is to secure depositions from such of our citizens as knew him at the time of his residence here, to the effect that he was even then not in his right mind. Whether such depositions can be secured is a question. He is remembered as a very peculiar and eccentric man, but it does not follow that he was mad. Many men have even more pronounced oddities and yet are fully capable, and disposed to the doing, of everything as the law contemplates that it shall be done.

He was a bachelor when he lived here and for a time occupied rooms in the old Dennis tavern which stood at the corner of Franklin and Market Streets, where the Second National Bank now is. Afterwards he moved to the boarding house on the corner of the alley on Franklin Street, west side, where the broker shops and lawyers' offices are to-day. Here he used to do his work at a table piled high with papers and in

a room littered with them. He was a great reader and well up in literature of all kinds. In attestation of his attainments and standing in this regard is the fact that when he afterwards removed to New York he became a member of the famous Century Club. He was fond of having his friends come to his room and eat with him. Nearly always he would keep a pot containing soup, of which he was evidently very appreciative, boiling on a stove in one of his rooms. He made jellies himself, that is with his own hands. He would boil eggs and feed his guests with meals composed of these and other articles, the product of his own culinary genius. He was very greatly exercised by the great flood of 1865, when the Susquehanna found its way into our streets as far up as the Square and when River, Franklin, Canal and other streets were navigated for some time in boats. During this period he was fond of parading in the water up and down River Street in great long boots reaching up to his middle, and a rope tied around his waist, with a long end coiled, which he carried in his hand, and which he said was to be thrown to the rescue of any poor devil who might be brought helplessly down the swollen stream from any point above, or to any boy or woman who should topple from his or her boat, or otherwise be placed in danger of being drowned. He traversed this beat patiently during nearly all the continuance of the flood. It is remembered that once during this time he stopped at Mrs. Woodbury's house and asked for a glass of brandy. The liquor was given to him, but instead of drinking it he poured it into his boots, remarking that in that place it would be a reasonably sure preventive against his taking cold.

Other of his peculiarities are remembered and will doubtless be sworn to for the use of those who aim to upset the suicide's will, but whether they should avail to accomplish that object may well be questioned. It certainly should not be called evidence of insanity that a man prefers brandy in his boots to brandy in his belly. O. B. J.

## Early Susquehanna Manuscripts.

The *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* for October contains the following note:

MS. on the Susquehanna and bordering country.—The British Historical Manuscripts Commission, in the Appendix to their 8th Report, mention a manuscript of some value to students of Pennsylvania history. "Official report of 48 pp., May, 1778, 'Description de la riviere de Susquehanna, et du pays qui la borde, depuis Harris's Ferry jusqu'à l'embouchure.' MS. still or recently in the possession of Lord Braybrooke, of Braybrooke, at Audley End, Saffron, Walden, Sussex."

**The Sullivan Expedition Journals.**

The journals, maps, etc., of General John Sullivan's military expeditions against the "Six Nations" of Indians in 1779, have been prepared in a well-bound volume by Secretary of State Cook in accordance with a bill passed in the New York Legislature. The journals of General Sullivan's lieutenants and assistants are included, and the volume contains excellent steel engravings of General Sullivan, Brigadier General James Olinton, Colonel Peter Gansevoort and Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt, and complete records of centennial celebrations of the highly interesting events in which General Sullivan participated.

[Letter to the Editor.]

The State of New York, with great liberality and honor to herself, has recently published the centennial proceedings celebrating the victory of Gen Sullivan and the forces under his command over the Indians, British and Tories at Newtown, six miles below Elmira, on the 29th of August, 1779. The publication, besides the centennial proceedings of Aug. 29, 1879, includes the historical addresses at that and other places upon the subject, journals of officers and others written at the time, roster of officers, biographical sketches, etc., etc.

Among the journals is one purporting to have been written by Maj. James Norris. On page 280, commencing Aug. 14, 1779, it will be found that this journal is an exact copy of that of Lieut. Col. Dearborn from Aug. 14 to the end. See page 70, etc.

At the conclusion of Dearborn's Journal the Norris Journal is filled out with the General Orders issued by Sullivan at the camp in Easton May 24, 1779. See Lieut. Col. Hubley's Journal, page 145, and Lieut. Col. H. Dearborn's Journal page 68.

The compiler of this publication has evidently been imposed upon, by whom I shall not attempt to say.

In examining the introduction to Norris' Journal, page 228, I find that this journal was "carefully revised and corrected" by George G. Barnum, Esq., corresponding secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society, from "an imperfect copy thereof, with several omissions and many important errors." Is Mr. Barnum the party who was guilty of supplying these "several omissions and many important errors," by copying Dearborn's Journal and making it pass for Norris'—or has he been imposed upon. It behooves him to rise and explain, and if he is not the guilty party, to let the public know who that party is. His society, who have the Norris' manuscript, ought to hunt out the imposter at any cost. He has used that society to perpetrate a great fraud.

WYOMING, Oct. 8, 1897. STEUBEN JENKINS.

[Letter to the Editor.]

In 1870 the Athens (Pa.) *Gleaner*, then devoting much space each week to historical papers, published an article entitled, "The Story of a Revolutionary Soldier." It filled two or three columns, and was endorsed by the editor, Mr. Chas. T. Huston. It gave the recollections, almost in the form of a diary, of Edwin Corwin, of General Sullivan's expedition from Aug. 20th to the end.

Corwin belonged to General Olinton's command. He begins his recollections with the assembly of Olinton's troops at "Canajohary." In Mr. Corwin's volume of Sullivan's expedition, lately issued by the State of New York, neither Corwin nor his "Recollections" are mentioned. Will Hon. Steuben Jenkins examine the article in his copy of the *Gleaner*, and give some knowledge of Corwin's "Recollections?" Who was the person who took them down "from Corwin's lips," as the preface states?

Corwin was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., Feb. 13, 1759; died Sept. 5, 1848, at the advanced age of 89 years. He was a private in the 6th Co., Captain Fowler—2d N. Y. Reg.; was at the battles of Saratoga and Monmouth—saw Andre hung, and followed Sullivan's expedition. We are told that he "had many thrilling incidents to relate." Did he leave any manuscript narratives of his Revolutionary life beyond the paper *supra*?

In this connection I beg, with profound respect, to differ with my friend, Mr. Jenkins, as to the similarity of Maj. Norris' and Gen. Dearborn's Journal of the Sullivan Expedition. A comparison of these two journals does not justify Mr. J.'s statement that the journal of Norris had been tampered with, and enlarged by a third party, copying certain portions of Dearborn's journal. The differences in language, spelling, punctuation, and the use of capital letters in those parts of Norris' journal that are similar in substance, and largely in language, to Dearborn's, are very patent. Each journal bears strong internal evidence of having been written throughout by the party to whom it is credited. And unless Mr. Jenkins has seen the *original* MS. of Norris' journal, and is sure that the suspected parts are not in the same writing with the part that is not suspected, his criticism is not just. Certainly no profit could be gained by any third party from such a villainous forgery as an imitation of Norris' style of writing in copying from Dearborn would be.

In defense of my friend, the honorable secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society, Mr. G. C. Barnum, I must say that I believe such an action on his part to be impossible. If Mr. Jenkins has ever been a soldier, and as such kept a diary of events solely



for his own personal pleasure, as the writer has done, he will have had an uncommon experience if he has not copied from other diaries or allowed his comrades to copy from his such events as procrastination or other causes may have prevented being recorded at the moment they happened. It is very doubtful if any single expedition that was made on either side in the war between the States (1861-1865) produced as many journals of the expedition as those of Arnold to Canada in 1775 and Sullivan to Niagara in 1779. The wonder is that among the 27 journals of the latter expedition so little exact similarity occurs. Finally, Mr. J. fails to notice that Maj. Norris was the major of Lt. Col. Dearborn's regiment in this expedition, doubtless occupying the same tent; at least sleeping under the same blanket and it is hardly probable that they failed to record the daily events in their journals at the same time. Mr. J. is unjust to both Mr. Barnum and the Buffalo Historical Society in his criticism "unless he speaks from the book." H. E. H.

#### A Former Wilkes-Barrean Dead.

The San Antonio *Express*, of Sept. 6 contains a column and a half report of a meeting of the San Antonio Bar, called to take action on the death of Major Jacob Waelder, a former Wilkes-Barrean. Deceased is spoken of in the most eulogistic terms in the speeches and resolutions. He occupied a prominent position in San Antonio and was elected to every office for which he was a candidate. He was twice elected to the Legislature and was a member of the convention which framed the State Constitution. He is described as an able and learned lawyer, a pleasant associate, an esteemed citizen, a Democrat and a christian gentleman.

He was the founder of Mr. Baur's *Waechter*, a German paper in this city, in 1842, previous to which time he had been employed in the State Department of Harrisburg as translator of German documents. In 1846, the *Waechter* says, he went to the Mexican war as a first lieutenant in the Wyoming Artillerists, and made a most creditable war record. Upon his return he studied law with Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, and was admitted to the bar in 1850, being elected district attorney the following year. In 1856 he went to Texas, where he built up a large law practice. A city in Texas bears his name.

Mr. Waelder was born in Germany in 1817. He leaves a widow and seven children, also one daughter by a former marriage, Molly Waelder, who visits Wilkes-

Barre from time to time, in company with her mother's sister, Miss Mary Lamb, who owns the property on the corner of Market and Franklin Streets, diagonally opposite the Wyoming Bank.

#### Funeral of the Late Major Waelder.

The San Antonio (Texas) *Express* of the 4th inst., gives particulars of the funeral of the late Major Jacob Waelder, formerly of Wilkes-Barre. He was buried according to the ritual of the Episcopal church, the long cortege comprising a battery of artillery, three troops of cavalry, besides numerous civic, beneficial and musical associations. The Beethoven Maennerchor sang at the grave and the Belknap Rifles fired a farewell salute.

#### Jacob Jacoby's Death.

At 1 pm. Sept. 11, Jacob Jacoby, a well-known resident of this community, died after a short illness of general debility consequent on old age. Until within the past few years he was engaged in the grocery business here, and was an industrious and upright merchant. He had resided for some time past with his son-in-law, Jacob Adams, 60 South Washington Street, where he died. He leaves two children, Josephine, wife of Mr. Adams, and Joseph. He came from Bavaria, Germany, to this city forty-six years ago, and thus ranked among our oldest German citizens. He was 84 years of age.

#### Death of Rev. Matthias W. Harris.

The sad news has been received of the death on Sept. 17, of Rev. M. W. Harris in a Western home, to which he went from Wilkes-Barre only a few months ago. The disease which struck Mr. Harris down was typhoid fever, with which he had been ill for only a fortnight. Mr. Harris was 50 years of age, and was a local minister in the Evangelical Church in this city. Last April he went to Carthage, Mo., where he accepted a charge, and was preaching up to the time of his death. While in Wilkes-Barre Mr. Harris was an active participant in the Third Party Prohibition movement and was a fluent speaker on the platform and in the pulpit. His wife and four adult children survive him. The children are Mrs. Mary Goodwin, of Centralia; Edgar F. and Harvey H. Harris, of this city; and B. S. and W. S. Harris, who are at Carthage. The latter was here at the time the news came that he was ill, and left for home at once, but arrived too late to see his father alive. Mr. Harris was buried in Carthage on Sunday, Sept. 18.

**Death of Mrs. McCarragher.**

Mrs. E. G. McCarragher, the wife of Samuel McCarragher, Esq., died Sunday morning, Oct. 2, about 7 o'clock, in the 63d year of her age, at her late residence, 85 Dana Street. For several years diabetes had weakened her and kept her much at home, and recently Bright's disease attacked her. A recent fall upon the pavement, giving a severe nervous shock, perhaps hastened her end. Mrs. McCarragher was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of this city. When she knew the time of her departure was near, she looked toward the future without fear and with abundant faith. She died very peacefully, and during her last sickness suffered little or no pain. The funeral services took place at her late residence on Tuesday afternoon at 3:30.

**Attorney Dickson's Father Dead.**

Rev. H. S. Dickson, of Philadelphia, father of A. H. Dickson, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre, died at his home in the former city Oct. 17. Rev. Mr. Dickson was a native of County Down, Ireland, and was seventy-five years of age at the time of his death. He came to this country with his parents in 1834 and settled near Lanningsburg, N. Y., where, by his own industry, he accumulated sufficient funds to carry him through Union College and Princeton Theological Seminary. He then took up his life work of preaching, his first charge being in Mississippi. A little later we hear of him at Fort Wayne, Ind., when he remained several years, preaching with great success, erecting a fine church and performing other works that are greatly to his credit. He afterwards performed similar work in Utica, N. Y., building the Westminster Church. Shortly after he was injured in a railroad accident and compelled to give up active work, when he removed to Philadelphia, where he has continued to aid the good cause by wise counsel founded on long experience and a hearty interest in the work.

**Death of Mrs. D. A. Fell.**

On Saturday, Oct. 8, at 9 o'clock am., Elizabeth Gray, wife of D. A. Fell, Sr., died at her residence, 42 North Washington Street, of cirrhosis of the liver, after an illness of some six months. She was 51 years of age and is survived by her husband and two sons, Attorney D. A. Fell, Jr., and Dr. Alexander G. Fell. Her only other child, a daughter, Mary, died about two years ago.

The deceased was a daughter of the late Alexander Gray, of this city, was born here and passed her whole life in Wilkes-Barre. Of her family four sisters survive her, Mrs. Anna Brown, widow of the late Joseph Brown, of this city, and Mrs. Margaret Car-

penter and Misses Jane and Isabella Gray, of Princeton, N. J. Mrs. Fell will be greatly missed not only from the circle of her family, but by all her many friends. She had a kindly, gentle nature, warm hearted and affectionate. She was a consistent member of the First Presbyterian Church and practiced the christian teachings of her faith in all the occurrences of daily life.

The funeral took place at 3 pm. Monday from her late residence, Rev. Dr. Hodges officiating. The interment was made in Hollenback Cemetery.

**Death of Mrs. Enterline.**

Death entered a Wilkes-Barre home Sept. 29 and robbed it of a kind and loving mother and robbed the community of a valued friend and neighbor. Mrs. Angie Enterline, widow of the late J. H. Enterline, of Dauphin County, and eldest daughter of the late Edward Enterline, of this city, died Thursday at 7:30 pm. at her home on Ross Street. Her age was 89 years and death resulted from typhoid pneumonia from which she has been a painful sufferer. She is survived by five children, the eldest being a saleslady in the store of Isaac Long, a son being employed by W. M. Miller, and a third employed as a Reo cab carrier. Deceased came here from Berrysburg, Dauphin Co., nearly three years ago after the death of her husband. Deceased was a sister of Mrs. George Steidle, Mrs. C. Ben Johnson and George W. Enterline, all of this city. Mrs. Enterline was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

**Almost a Centenarian Fisherman.**

The venerable "Daddy" Emmons, the famous fisherman of Harvey's Lake is dead, his demise having occurred at Dallas on Sept. 14, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Davis. A fortnight ago while walking on the streets of Dallas he was knocked down by a passing team, sustaining the fracture of a hip. At the advanced age of 92 such an injury could not be recovered from and he passed quickly away. As the *Leader* says, he went to Harvey's Lake from New Jersey about thirty-five years ago and ever since has been a prominent character at that favorite resort. Up to about two years ago he lived in a hut in a cove of woods on the banks of the lake, and was looked upon as the ideal fisherman of the neighborhood. He knew just where the finny tribe was most numerous, and seldom failed to make a catch when a proper effort was put forth. He taught many of the prominent men of his day the art of angling, among his pupils being the late Judge Paxon, of Philadelphia. Since leaving the lake he has resided with his daughter."

# The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

## The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

## NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

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VOLUME 2—1888.

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WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

MDCCLXXXVIII



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# The Historical Record

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NO. 1.

## WENKAHEMEN

Or Joseph Nutimus, Chief of the Fork Indians and King of Nescopeek—Supposed to be Responsible for the Moravian Massacre of 1755.

[Contributed by C. F. Hill.]

Joseph Nutimus was a Delaware Indian and chief of the tribe known as the Fork Indians, and later in life was known as Old King Nutimus. His home for many years was at the mouth of the Nescopeek Creek where the town of Nescopeek now stands. The term of his occupation of Nescopeek was between the years of 1742 and 1768. The earliest reference to him is made by James Logan, Esq., in a letter bearing date Stenton, 7th. 4th, 1788, to Thomas Penn, Esq., in which he speaks of an expected visit from Nutimus and his company, with a present and apprehends trouble, and closes by stating "*that they left a bag of bullets last year.*" In a later letter dated Aug. 22, 1783, Logan acknowledges that Nutimus has lands in the forks of the Delaware and Lehigh River above Durham. The Lehigh River at that time was also known as the western branch of the Delaware River, and the tribes located on the lands between these two streams and where Easton now stands, were known as the Fork Indians.

This was the original dominion of King Nutimus, where he held undisputed sway, subject only to such allegiance as he owed to the Six Nations, until the famous walking purchase took place in 1787, the history of which is too long for the purposes of this notice, and which, contrary to the expectation of the Fork Indians, extended far beyond their meaning of a day and a half walk and included the Fork lands. Edward Marshall, a trained pedestrian, did the walking. Nutimus and his people were disappointed, chagrined and angry and were ready for retaliation. Settlers at once flocked in upon his lands and settled among his people, while they obstinately and with much insolence held their ground.

After five years of unhappy dispute as to who should occupy these lands, complaint was made by the people of Pennsylvania to the Six Nations, which resulted in a council being called at Philadelphia July 12, 1742, at which Cannasatego, a Sachem of the Six Nations, delivered his famous speech to the

complaining Delaware, and cites to them deeds made by their fathers more than 50 years ago for these same lands and later deeds and releases made by themselves, several of which, in fact, were signed by Nutimus himself. Cannasatego was thoroughly disgusted with their action and tells them they should be taken by the hair of their heads and shaken until they have some sense, that their cause is bad and their hearts far from being upright, and that the land they claim has been sold and gone down their throats, and that now like children they want it again, and closes by delivering a peremptory order to leave at once and go to the Susquehanna.

No doubt Nutimus was both reluctant and slow to obey, but in due time we find him and his people located at Nescopeek, which place, if he took the most convenient route, he reached by the path which led from the Lehigh Gap, in the Blue Mountains, across the Mauch Chunk Mountain, crossing the Quakake Valley and the Buck Mountain west from Hazleton, near Audenried, passing near the famous Sugarloaf in Conyngham Valley, to the mouth of the Nescopeek Creek, where he settled on the present site of the town of Nescopeek, on a level fertile soil, the forest being of such a character as to yield readily to the Indian method of clearing land, by removing the small trees, and girdling the larger.

Nothing occurred to bring Nutimus and his people to notice in their new home until the breaking out of the French and Indian war. A spirit of unrest and disquiet now came over the Delaware Indians on the Susquehanna. (It was now important to cultivate the friendship of the Delaware. Accordingly Gov. Hamilton sent Conrad Weiser among them with conciliatory messages, who writes, May, 1754:

"On April 30 I arrived at Shamokin and sent my son Samuel and James Logan, Shikellimy's son, up the north branch with the message to Nutimus at Nescopeek. Upon their return they report Old Nutimus was from home, but the rest of the Indians received the message very kindly and said they would lay it before Nutimus and the rest of the Indians after they should come home.") Gen. Braddock was defeated by the French and Indians July 9, 1757, on the

**Monongahela.** Reports were numerous that the French were coming from Fort Duquesne to Shamokin, now Sunbury, to erect a large fort and to carry the war into Pennsylvania.

Later Weiser writes that the author of the numerous murders of the people of Pennsylvania is Ontario (the French) and that they have prevailed upon the Delawares at Nescopeck, who had given their town as a place of rendezvous for the French and had undertaken to join and guide them on the way to the English.

About this time Weiser sent two spies, Silver Heels and David, a Mohawk Indian, from John Harris' (now Harrisburg) to Nescopeck to learn what was going on there. Upon their return they reported that they saw 140 warriors dancing the war dance, and expressed great bitterness against the English; and that they were preparing an expedition against them and thought they would go to the eastward. At a council of the Delawares on the West Branch and held at Shamokin it was decided, in order to avoid an invading army from the French, to go to Nescopeck for safety. Tacknedorus, alias John Shikellimy, says:

"I went with them to Nescopeck and took my family with me. After awhile I found the Nescopeck Indians were in the French interest. I, with my brethren and others, then began to feel afraid and returned to Shamokin."

In November, 1755, occurred the burning and plundering of Gnadenbutten (now Weissport) and the slaughter of the Moravian missionaries, and the long list of murders that immediately followed, in this former home of old King Nutimus, taken in connection with the circumstances given and the close proximity of Nescopeck to Gnadenbutten and the direct path betwixt the two places, forces the conclusion that Nutimus was largely if not entirely responsible for them.

Edward Marshall, who accomplished the great walk on which the walking purchase was based, lived at this time at or near the present village of Slateford; Marshall was not to blame for the walk, for he did it as a hired man though he never received the five hundred acres of land promised him. Still the Indians remembered the part he had taken upon himself and they determined to retaliate. They surrounded his house when he was not at home and shot his daughter as she was trying to escape, the ball entering her right shoulder and coming out below the left breast. Yet she got away from them and recovered! They took Marshall's wife, who was not in condition to make rapid flight, some miles with them and killed her. In a former attack on his house they had killed

one of his sons. Though thirsting for Marshall's blood for many years, yet they seem to have always feared him and usually undertook their bloody work when he was from home. He eventually died a natural death after attaining a good old age.

In 1755, Fort Augusta, (at now Sunbury) one of the largest, if not the largest inland forts in the State was erected, and in June, 1757, we find Old King Nutimus with his wife and sons and daughters making visits to Shamokin. He frequently came to the fort as a friend, having no doubt in the few preceding years abundantly revenged himself and people for the loss of the Fork lands. At one of his visits to Fort Augusta he complained bitterly to his old friend and long time acquaintance, Captain Jacob Orndt, formerly from Easton and who was now in command at Fort Augusta, that the soldiers at the fort on a previous visit had debauched his wife and daughter by secretly giving them whisky, and declaring that if such things were allowed, that it would not be safe for a man to bring his wife and daughters to the fort again. His visits to Fort Augusta were made with the canoe. It is believed that he left Nescopeck with his family about 1733 and went to the Great Island on the west branch, and thence joined the Delawares on the Ohio. He had a son, Isaac Nutimus, who lived at Tioga, and was a warm friend of the English, and at last accounts, in 1759, was about joining an expedition against the French at Pittsburg.

This is the brief history of old King Nutimus and the Nescopeck Indians, many of whose bones lie buried, and which the crumbling banks of the Susquehanna have for many years exposed to view, and unearthed many curious and valuable Indian relics. W. H. Smith, attorney, at Berwick, has many curiosities gathered from the field once occupied by Nutimus and his people. It is said that near the town of Nescopeck in the surface of a large boulder is a mortar worked out, in which the Indians with a pebble ground their corn, and which now remains as the last vestige of Old King Nutimus and his people.

#### Golden Wedding

An enjoyable reunion occurred Oct. 26, 1887, at Overfield, Wyoming County, the golden wedding of Andrew Miller and wife. Mr. Miller was born in Warren County, N. J., 1815, and in 1835 removed with his family to Hanover Township, Luzerne County, where his father, Barnet Miller, purchased a farm. In this vicinity he formed an acquaintance with Miss Fannie Dersheimer in Exeter, now Ransom, in Lacka-

wanna County. Mrs. Miller was born in Northampton County in 1818. The first 14 years of their married life were spent in the Wyoming Valley. In the spring of 1852 he purchased and moved his family upon the premises he now occupies. For thirty-five years this has been their home.

#### BEFORE THE MASSACRE.

An Old Account Book Which Has to do With the Pioneers of Wyoming—Additional Data Collected by Henry Blackman Plumb.

Reference has already been made in these columns to an old pocket account book in the possession of H. B. Plumb, author of the "History of Hanover Township," the same having been kept by his great grandfather, Elisha Blackman. Not only is the book valuable as affording ideas of the manner and cost of living in those early days, but it is interesting as furnishing what is almost a directory of that time. How interesting would a complete directory be. The book mentions fully half the families of Wilkes-Barre. The whole number of names in this account book of one who was only a farmer is 65. Of these 14 were killed in the battle and massacre of 1778. There were also in the battle 8 who escaped. Fifteen of them or their sons served in the Continental or Revolutionary army during the war for independence.

The accounts cover date from 1772 down to the battle and massacre, July 3, 1778, and Mr. Plumb has kindly furnished the RECORD with a list of the names, together with brief mention by himself of each one. Though the comment is brief it has required no little research by Mr. Plumb to cull the matter from published and unpublished sources. The original orthography of the names is given:

*Jonathan Avery:* In Wilkes-Barre in 1775-6; nothing further known of him.

*Benjamin Baly:* Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1774-8; was a corporal in Capt. John Franklin's company of militia previous to 1782.

*Samuel Becket:* In Wilkes-Barre, January, 1774 to 1778; nothing further is known of him.

*James Badlock (Bidlack):* Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1775-6-7. As there was a James Bidlack, Jr., who was slain in the battle and massacre of Wyoming in 1778 it is uncertain whether this is father or son. The father was taken prisoner by the Indians on the flats opposite Wilkes-Barre in 1779 and carried into captivity. His son Benjamin was in Spalding's company in the U. S. army after 23 June, 1778.

*Elisha Blackman, Sr.:* The owner of the account book in which these names appear;

lived in Wilkes-Barre from 1772 to 1778, the family fled to Connecticut after the massacre. He returned in 1787 to Wilkes-Barre, where he resided till his death in 1804, aged 87. Some of his descendants still live there. His sons Elisha, Eleaser and Ichabod left large families.

*Elisha Blackman, Jr.:* Son of the above, was eighteen years old at the time of the Wyoming battle and massacre in which he fought, and escaped with his life, and fled the next day with his father to Stroudsburg, the rest of the family having fled earlier in the day. While the family returned to Connecticut from whence they came, he returned to Wyoming early in August with Capt. Spalding's men, helped to gather such of the harvests and crops as they could, helped to bury the dead on the fatal battle field in October (and he always said they were buried in two graves or trenches a half mile or so apart); and then enlisted in the active army in the field and served to the end of the war. He received two pensions, one from the United States and one from Connecticut. His brothers were too young to be in the army. His residence was in Hanover from 1791 till 1845 when he died, aged 86.

*Joseph Blackman:* In Wilkes-Barre, in January, 1778, but probably never lived here.

*Esquire Zebulon Butler:* Lived in Wilkes-Barre in January, 1778, was a colonel in the U. S. army 1775 to 1783, was one of the first settlers in Wilkes-Barre, was in command of the militia in the battle of July 3, 1778, at Wyoming, being home on furlough at the time. He escaped the massacre, and served in the army till the end of the war.

*Mr. — Carr:* Was in Wilkes-Barre in 1778. Capt. Carr and Philip Goes were murdered by Indians below Wapwallopen in November, 1778. Daniel Carr was taken prisoner before the battle. Either of these may be the man.

*Uriah Chapman:* Of the Lackawack settlement, was a mill owner, removed there from Norwich, Conn., in October, 1778. Mill irons carried to Minisink for him that year by Elisha Blackman, Sr.

*Dr. John Corkins:* Lived in Wilkes-Barre 1775 to 1778, was a noted surgeon in New London, Conn., came here in 1778. Many of the people desiring to have him establish himself here, drew up a petition and procured subscribers, the money to be laid out in a "lot for his benefit and use." It is supposed the issue was favorable for his name is found here as late as 1789.

*Joseph Crooker:* lived in Wilkes-Barre previous to 1778; probably kept the lower ferry at the foot of Northampton Street, as he bid £10.10s.00d., for it; was killed in the battle and massacre.

**Anderson Dana:** In Wilkes-Barre, 1774, to Mar. 30, 1778; was slain in the battle and massacre; was a lawyer by profession. Descendants of his still live here.

**Clemans Daniel:** In Wilkes-Barre in Nov. 1775; nothing further known of him except that he resided in Wilkes-Barre as late as 1789.

**Dugles Daveson:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778; belonged to Capt. Durkee's company; in the army from 1776 to 1778; did not belong to Spalding's consolidated company in 1778. Lived here long afterwards.

**William Davison:** In Wilkes-Barre in 1778; belonged to Capt. Durkee's company in the U. S. army 1776 to 1778; did not join the consolidated company of Capt. Spalding: Nothing more known of him.

**Col. (Nathan) Denison:** In Wilkes-Barre in 1776 to 1778; escaped the massacre; was a colonel of the militia in the battle, July 3, 1778; afterwards Judge of the court till 1782.3.

**Mathew Dolson:** In Wilkes-Barre, in January, 1776; nothing further known of him.

**Mr. (George) Dorrance:** Lived in Kingston; 1776 collector of rates. Lieut. Col. of the militia July 3, 1778, and was killed.

**Daniel Downing:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in November, 1775 to 1778. Was in James Bidlack's company in the battle and massacre and escaped. Returned to Wilkes-Barre the same fall, and afterwards resided there as late as 1782. Afterwards there is a Joel and a Reuben named.

**Capt. Robert Durkee:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1774 to May 1777. He was commissioned captain of one of the two Wyoming companies, August 26, 1776; on the day of the battle of Wyoming, he with Lieut. Pierce, came spurring their jaded horses to Forty Fort, about a half hour after our men had marched out. They had left their men on foot about 40 miles off, and had ridden in to assist their families and friends. "We are faint give us bread." "Having snatched a morsel of food, they hastened to the field." Both were slain.

**Thomas Durkee:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1776-7. Nothing further is known of him.

**Thomas Ellis** (probably Ellis): In Wilkes-Barre in 1773. His lot was put into Springfield.

**John Ewens:** Lived in Hanover 1773-8, assisted by Elisha Blackman, Sr., to move into Hanover in 1778 from Lancaster County, Pa., was a resident till the massacre, after which he lived in Lancaster County.

**Daniel Fine,** (or Finny, or Kiune, or Kinny.): In Wilkes-Barre in January and October, 1774. Nothing further is known of him. The name seems to be uncertain.

**Jonathan Fitch:** In Wilkes-Barre in 1778, was sheriff of the county of Westmoreland till the very last, was an old man and probably one of the Reformadoes to guard the

Blockhouse in Hanover in 1778. after the battle and during the flight he was the only man among 100 women and children to lead and direct them across the mountains in Hanover, along the Warrior Path to Fort Allen, (Weissport now,) on the Lehigh. From 1780 to 1782 he was elected assemblyman to Connecticut four times.

**Mr. ——— Forsids,** (Forsythe): In Wilkes-Barre in 1776, lived in Hanover in 1778-80, and it is understood he lived there for many years afterwards.

**John Franklin:** Of Hanover, May, 1773-8; was slain in the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778, together with his brother, Jonathan. His brothers, Lieut. Rosewell Franklin and Arnold Franklin, escaped.

**Capt. Stephen Fuller:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre, 1776. A private in the battle of Wyoming. July 3, 1778, and was killed. Had been captain in the Wyoming militia in 1775.

**Jedediah Goor** (probably Obadiah Gore, Jr.) Came to Wilkes-Barre in 1769; Was a resident of Wilkes-Barre in 1773; was in the U. S. army, Lieutenant in the company of Capt. Weisner, 1776 to 1782. Afterwards lived in Sheshequin; was an associate judge of Luzerne County; died in 1820.

**Mr. ——— Gordon:** In Wilkes-Barre, in 1776; was the surveyor of the town of Westmoreland; laid out the public roads in September, 1778; the roads had been laid out before by the townships, but it would seem from this were not lawful roads or highways of the "town of Westmoreland."

**Benjamin Harve** (Harvey): Lived in Plymouth 1774; belonged to Capt. Durkee's company in the U. S. Army 1778, till his death in the service; unless, as is probable, this Benjamin is the father, who had another son, Silas, killed in the battle and massacre of Wyoming, and in 1780, in December, himself and only remaining son, Elisha, were taken prisoners by the Indians and driven to Canada. They survived and were afterwards released, and lived and died in Plymouth.

**Jonathan Haskel:** Was one of the original settlers on the Delaware or Lackawaxen in 1773; was assisted by Elisha Blackman, Sr., in moving to the Minisinks, on the Delaware, from Connecticut in October, 1773. He was constable, collector of rates and key keeper for his district in 1774.

**Asel Hide:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1775-6; was corporal in Capt. Durkee's company in the U. S. Army 1776 to 1778, June 23, when he joined Capt. Spalding's consolidated company as a private till 1782, the end of the war.

**John Hide:** Lived in Wilkes-Barre in October, 1775; nothing further known of him.

*Simon Hide*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1776; nothing more known of him.

*John Hollenback*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1777 to 1794; mill owner on Mill Creek; some of his descendants still reside in Wilkes-Barre.

*Mr. — Jenkins*: Lived in Kingston in 1778; collector "For Rates." Supposed to be John Jenkins. He was, in 1777, taken prisoner by the Indians and taken to Canada, was sent for exchange for what turned out to be a *dead* Indian chief, he however, made his escape. He joined Capt. Spalding's company and was made Lieutenant in 1778; and came into the valley with them in August; he was with the army, which under Gen. Sullivan invaded and devastated the Indian country in New York in 1779; served in the U. S. army till the end of the war. He died in Kingston or Wyoming, in 1827. Descendants of his still reside there.

*Timothy Cyes*: (Keys) Lived at this time, October, 1772, in Wilkes-Barre; in 1775 was ensign in the Wyoming militia; afterwards lived up the Lackawanna, and after the battle of the 3rd of July, 1778, early in the fall, or perhaps in August, he was taken prisoner by the Indians together with Isaac Tripp, Esq., Isaac Tripp his grandson, and a young man named Hooksey. The old man they let go, but, up in Abington on the Warrior Path to Oquago, they murdered Keys and Hooksey.

*Ebenezer Lain*: In Wilkes-Barre in 1776; nothing further known of him.

*William Lisk*: Was in Wyoming in 1775 to 1776; nothing further known of him.

*Alexander Lock*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1774-76; bought a quarter of a town lot No. 32 in the town plot of Wilkes-Barre of Elisha Blackman, Sr., 28 March, 1774, for £2 14s. Od., Connecticut currency—\$9 in U. S. money of these times. A James Lock was killed in the massacre; probably his son.

*Daniel Mackmullen*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778, was in the battle and massacre and escaped. Nothing further known of him by the writer.

*John Obed*: In Wilkes-Barre in Feb. 1777; nothing further known of him.

*Ebenezer Phillips*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1775-8; belonged to Capt. Durkee's company in the U. S. Army 1778-8 till its consolidation with Ransom's in June, 1778, under Capt. Spalding. Nothing further known of him.

*Mr. — Porter*: In Wilkes-Barre in 1774, a Thomas Porter was in Capt. Durkee's company in the U. S. army in 1776, and was killed by a cannon ball in battle. A Thomas Porter was in the lower Wilkes-Barre company in the Wyoming battle in 1778, and escaped the massacre. They may be father and son.

*Jabes Post*: In Wilkes-Barre in July, 1774. Nothing further known of him.

*Mr. — Prid* (Pride): In Wilkes-Barre in 1775-8; nothing more of him.

*Mr. Sill* (Jabez Sill): Resided in Wilkes-Barre in 1778; was one of the first 200 settlers in Wilkes-Barre, 1769; had two sons in U. S. Army with Capt. Durkee, Elisha N. and Shadrack. On the consolidation of the two companies at Lancaster on June 28, 1778, Shadrack re-enlisted with Capt. Spalding, but Elisha N. came home. Another son, Jabez Sill, Jr., belonged to Capt. Franklin's company of militia in Wyoming previous to 1782—(after the massacre)—during the war. Elisha N. Sill after the war went to Connecticut, studied medicine and practiced, and died there a very old man.

*David Smith*: In Wilkes-Barre in 1774; nothing further known of him.

*Isaac Smith*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1776. Belonged to Capt. Durkee's company in 1778 and to Spalding's consolidated company to the end of the Revolutionary war.

*Capt. Josiah Smith*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778 or 1768; bid for the Upper Ferry £8 6s. Od. This ferry was at the mouth of Mill Creek, and *Miner* says yielded half as much as the Lower Ferry. He says from twenty-five dollars a year the rent of the Lower Ferry soon rose to sixty; and the upper to half that sum until discontinued on the erection of mills in Kingston. In Connecticut currency

the lower at.....£10-10-0—\$35 00  
The upper at..... 6-6-0— 21 00

Total revenue at this sale per year. \$56 00

*Derias Spaford*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1775; was killed in the battle and massacre; was a blacksmith; was son-in-law of Elisha Blackman, Sr., the proprietor of the pocket account book from which these names are taken.

*Doctor Joseph Sprague*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre, June, 1772-7; was a physician by profession; he had come to Wyoming as a settler in 1770; he had a son killed in the battle and massacre, July 3, 1778; he died in Virginia; his step-daughter was the wife of William Young, of Hanover, and he was also in the battle but escaped the massacre.

*Asa Stevens*: Was in Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 1773 to April, 1778; was slain in the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778; was lieutenant in the lower Wilkes-Barre company.

*Mr. — Stuart*: Lived in Hanover, 1776; collector "For Rates."

*Daniel Tracy*: In Wilkes-Barre in 1774; nothing more known of him.

*Flabas Waterman*: In Wilkes-Barre in 1776. This name and the one below, Flavill Waterman, are so nearly alike, and both so near Flavius Waterman, the lieutenant in one company of our little army in the battle

of Wyoming in 1778, and who was slain there as to make the names of both uncertain.

*Flavill Waterman*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778 to 1777; see *Flebas Waterman* above.

*Elihu Waters*: Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778-7; was killed July 3, 1778.

*Capt. — Wigden* (probably *Capt. James Wigton*): Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1778; was in the Wyoming battle and massacre as a private in 1778 and was killed; belonged to the lower Wilkes-Barre company of *Capt. James Bidlack*.

*Aaron Wilder* (or *Wildor*): In Wilkes-Barre in 1774; nothing more known.

*Mr. — Woodworth*: In Wilkes-Barre in May, 1775; a boarder. Nothing further known of him.

*Abel Yereton* (*Yarington*): Lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1777; was in *Capt. John Franklin's* militia in Wyoming in 1782; lived in Wilkes-Barre as late as 1791.

#### A Fugitive From the Massacre.

[Letter to the Editor.]

The following incident of the Wyoming massacre may not be without interest to your readers:

Mrs. William Miller was born Jan. 1, 1780, and was therefore eighteen and a half years old at the time of the massacre, but young as she was, she was a mother living in the vicinity of the Old Forge, her husband being in the Continental army. She was taken prisoner with her child by the Indians and held for some time, just how long is not known. She wandered about with them, but at length they determined to release her and learning that her former home had been in Orange County, N. Y., they painted her face and that of her child, and sent them thither under an escort. She walked and carried the child in her arms the whole distance. The painting was done, as their custom was, to show that they had been released that other Indians might not molest them; consequently when any met them they would say, "Jogee jun, jogee jun;" meaning, "Go on Indian; go on, Indian." Her husband survived the war and joined her, after which they returned to Wyoming Valley and lived for some time in the vicinity of Pittaton. They subsequently moved to Clifford, in Susquehanna County, where her husband died in 1816, and after his death she came to live with her son, the late J. Nathan Miller, in Pleasant Mount, where she resided until her death, which occurred June 23, 1845. The terrible scenes of the massacre and her captivity were ever present to her memory and none the less so as age advanced. After her mind became impaired by age, stumps, in her imagination, were transformed into In-

dians, and she would start at almost every passing object and exclaim, "The Injuns are coming! The Injuns are coming!" J. Miller, of Pleasant Mount, and Jas. W. Miller, of Pittaton, are her grandsons, and she has descendants living here to the sixth generation. Wm. Wright.

Pleasant Mount, Sept. 15, 1887.

[In response to an inquiry of the *Record*, as to what was the maiden name of Mrs. Miller, Mr. Wright says he is unable to give the information. Her grandson, J. Miller, living at Pleasant Mount, says her Christian name was Elizabeth, but he cannot tell the place of her birth or her father's name.—*EDITOR*.]

#### A Great Contrast.

A striking difference in the two styles is set forth in the followinganzas. The first is taken from Dr. Franklin's "Poor Richard's Almanac." The last was doubtless written by an observing journalist:

Old style.

Farmer at the plough,  
Wife milking cow,  
Daughters spinning yarn,  
Sons thrashing in the barn,  
All happy to a charm.

New style.

The farmer gone to see a show,  
The daughter at the piano,  
Madam gaily dressed in satin,  
All the boys are learning latin,  
With a mortgage on the farm.

#### Wanted, a Town Sign Post.

In some things we are behind our ancestors of 100 years ago. In those days public notices were posted on a certain tree on the river bank, chosen by the community as a sign post. Consequently everybody referred to this sign post in absence of any other method of advertising. Nowadays we haven't the town sign post but high constable's and other notices are tacked up on a few of the several thousand telephone, telegraph, electric light, fire alarm or other poles which crowd the thoroughfares and the notices are therefore about as conspicuous as would be a cambric needle in a hay mow.

This is not right, nor is it fair to the tax payers of the city who have a right to expect that stray notices and other legal advertising be placed in some newspaper.

For example, some poor family is grieving to day over the loss of a black cow, with white spots on forehead and with horns turned over her face. The *Record* is willing to be a benefactor to that family to the extent of informing them that according to an obscure notice on a telephone pole, the cow is in the pound and is advertised to be sold on Nov. 5, at 11 am.

Surely there ought to be some way of bringing these notices—for they usually concern the poorer people—into print.

## CAPT. WREN'S RECOLLECTIONS.

The Attempt to Establish Iron Works in 1842—Some of the Contracts Between Then and Now.

[Letter to the Editor.]

Having read some interesting reminiscences relating to Wilkes-Barre and the Valley of Wyoming in your valuable Wilkes-Barre Record, I was more especially interested in the vast changes and improvements which have taken place. The early history of our coal and iron business is not only interesting, but very instructive. Comparing the past with the present helps us in our anticipations. What we might expect the future to be is the principal theme of this article.

And in looking back forty-five years, I find the prosperous city of Wilkes-Barre of 1887 very different from the country town of Wilkes-Barre of 1842, the date of my first visit. I was at that time yet an apprentice to the firm of Haywood & Snyder, of Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., and was one of a number of machinists sent by them for the erection of the rolling mill which was located at South Wilkes-Barre, of which they had the contract to build the machinery, engines, boilers, mill works, etc.

As there is not a vestige of the mill remaining to-day, a short history of its career may not be out of place, and although it would appear that blast furnaces and rolling mills have not been a success along this part of the valley, yet to my mind the question has never been satisfactorily answered, why they should not be made one of the leading industries, comparing the advantages surrounding this locality with other iron districts. I believe the day will come when iron works will line the banks of the Susquehanna resembling those in Scotland on the banks of the Clyde. Having assisted and taken an active part in the erection of nine rolling mills I feel justified in saying all honor to the pioneers of the coal and iron business. By the undaunted energy and perseverance of Pennsylvania she stands to-day a beacon light to every state in the Union, after many severe trials still advancing, step by step upward, demonstrating that what was considered an experiment 45 years ago is to-day a reality in the handling and manufacturing and manipulating of iron and steel.

The South Wilkes-Barre mill I find by my memoranda, made at the time, was first put in operation October 1, 1842. Its motive power consisted of one one hundred horse and one sixty horse power engines made very strong, but no ornament, and they would not compare with the highly finished

and beautifully designed machinery made by the Vulcan Iron Works and the Dickson Co. of the present day. The starting of the mill was a gala day in Wilkes-Barre. All the honest men and bonnie lasses were assembled to witness the operation, as, indeed, it was a novelty at that day. I felt rather proud myself as I had the honor of starting one of the engines. Many questions were asked and the good old farmers and their wives asked some puzzlers. The machinery moved off well and thus far was a success. The mill was superintended by Mr. Ellis, assisted by his sons. The principal workmen, heaters, puddlers and rollers were English and Welsh. The heating and puddling furnaces were then ordered to be fired up and the blast applied. This done, weak points were exposed, showing the badly constructed furnaces. The flame that should reach the iron to heat it was blowing out at every opening. The furnaces were a failure and had to be remodeled, and, although improved, never were what they should be, such as the successful furnaces of the present day. Another drawback was badly constructed rolls, the grooves of which would not reduce the iron properly. The rails made were very imperfect, being finned and ragged on edges like a cross-cut saw. It took several years in all our mills to overcome making bad rails, but by perseverance this trouble has been successfully overcome. Rails now can be rolled 60 feet long without a flaw. I was going to say a mile but that would be a pretty long rail, and reminds me of an anecdote. Commodore Stockton once visited a factory for making shoe lasts and he thought to have a joke on the proprietor before he left and said: "Sir, if I give you an order for a 74 gunship can you turn it off on your machine?" "Yes, Commodore, I can do it if you will furnish me with a block big enough." The Commodore owned the corn, and so it is with our improved machinery, we can do almost anything. For instance, 45 years ago our rollhouse weighed some 4 tons and was then considered a monster casting. I received a letter from a friend the other day, stating he had completed 2 houses for the Cambria Iron and Steel Co., Johnstown, weighing 20 tons each.

But I find I am getting away from the site of the old mill. The changed surroundings show that many of the old landmarks have gone, even the old canal has been converted into a railroad. No more is heard the sounding horn of the Packet Boat, Capt. Wells commanding, where you could get a good supper on board for 25 cents. Whistles are all the go now. On leaving the canal bridge and going up the street towards Public Square one saw

then green fields and blooming orchards. We find in 1887 these scenes are changed. There are large buildings of a variety of styles—machine shops, foundries and factories, making up the list, on both sides of the street, with the locomotives whizzing up and down, reminding one of some orderly at full gallop, carrying some important dispatches.

You have only to look around and see both the useful and ornamental as far as the eye can reach. Perhaps one of the most imposing structures, which will always adorn Main Street, is the magnificent armory of the Ninth Regiment, N. G. P. This is certainly a substantial improvement, one that reflects credit on the citizens of Wilkes-Barre and a great honor to the officers and men of the National Guard. Nothing but a genuine patriotic American spirit could erect such a noble structure. It cannot fail to inspire every true American with greater love of country, both in time of peace and in time of war. It is a bulwark of strength inspiring confidence and an assurance of safety to all our citizens and the influences which may emanate from the ranks of the National Guards as they arrive at the high standard which they are fast approaching will not only help to protect our best interests in our own region but may in case of an emergency form a grand centre around which a great Union army could rally quickly, nipping all enemies in the bud. The poet Burns truly said, "The soldier is the country's stay in day and hour of danger." I have great faith in the guards. They may help to save us from any more hurried Bull Runs and I candidly believe should grim visaged war ever dare make her appearance in our land our experience of the past and present in war discipline would be so combined in our National Guards that thousands of valuable lives would be saved and millions of national treasure. It is hoped that the day is not far distant when the guards will be rewarded by encouragement, financial and otherwise, from every state and county in the Union.

This again refreshes my memory of the good old military spirit of Wilkes-Barre in the year 1848, July 4th, at the dedication of Wyoming monument. The Columbia Guards, of Danville, were invited to participate, of which I was a member. Wilkes-Barre had several splendid military companies, and made a grand display, and had made royal provision for invited military guests and citizens, and among the large assembly, the occasion was honored by the commanding presence of His Excellency, Governor Shunk, then Governor of Pennsylvania. He

arrived by packet and was escorted to the grounds by the Columbia Guards who were detailed for that honorable duty. The warm and genuine hospitality extended by the military and citizens of Wilkes-Barre made a deep and lasting impression on all. Prayers full of thankfulness were offered up, patriotic addresses were made and the military reviewed by the Governor, and as we returned home in our canal boats rejoicing, the dedication was pronounced a grand success. The military on that occasion, was fully equipped and were beautifully uniformed. The fair ladies presented our company with a beautiful wreath, which we highly prized as a token of the friendship and beauty of the ladies of Wilkes-Barre.

On leaving the armory we reach another of Uncle Sam's fortifications, the beautiful hall of Ely Post 97, Grand Army of the Republic. They require no eulogy at my hands. They are the boys who were ready to draw their swords in the defense of the good old flag, and when drawn have never yet sheathed them with dishonor. It is always a pleasure to meet with them and see and hear them light their torches at the old camp fire, merely to keep from rusting.

On reaching Public Square we find the greatest change; the old wooden court house is gone, and in its place stands the commodious brick structure, with stone pavements leading into it from the different points. The court house is surrounded on every side by extensive stores and hotels.

Nearly all the eloquent voices which made the court house ring in 1842 have become silent. I spent many happy hours in hearing them debate. The bar then was composed of such men as the Hon. Judge Conyngham, Lawyer Kidder, afterwards Hon. Judge Harrison Wright, and I think Caleb Wright and others. I listened to several important cases tried and was very favorably impressed with the talent of the Wilkes-Barre bar, and so reported on my return to Pottsville.

The many railroads leading into the town of Wilkes-Barre will always make it a grand centre, and for miles around it a wide field is yet open for capital to develop rich resources. Other towns as they are reached by railroads will expand, inviting capitalists causing the now barren places to be dotted over with business enterprises and happy homes.

CAPTAIN JOHN Y. WREN, Plymouth.

The Doylestown *Intelligencer* (Sept. 23, 1887) gives an interesting sketch of the Beatty family of Bucks County. Of Rev. Charles Beatty's six sons four were officers in the Revolution and one of his five daughters married a chaplain in the same war.



**The Moravians in Wyoming Valley.**

In a recent issue of the RECORD was a contribution from John W. Jordan, of Philadelphia, giving some extracts from the diary of Joann Martin Mack, the Moravian missionary. The July number of the *Historical Journal* (Williamsport) contains some extracts from the same diary, under date of August, 1753. There is the following reference to Wyoming:

Below Muncy Creek we visited a small Shawnee town which a few years ago was built by some Indian families from Wyomick. We found old Shikasee, of Wyomick, here, who has been here since spring. He saluted us as brothers. We also visited John Shikellimy, who lives here and has a Shawnee wife. He furnished us with a choice piece of bear's meat. Shikellimy's family have mostly left Shamokin, as they find it very difficult to live there, owing to the large number of Indians passing through the town, who have to be fed. Our brethren make the same complaint—they have fed as high as 100 Indians per annum.

The following note by Mr. Jordan is given in the *Historical Journal* in connection with the Mack diary:

"The first Moravians to visit Shamokin and the West Branch of the Susquehanna were Zinzendorf and his suite in the late summer of 1742. Here he made the acquaintance of Shikellimy, Viceroy of the Six Nations, which was carefully followed up by his brethren, and ripened into a friendship, ending only with the death of the noble old chief. After repeated solicitations from the viceroy in August of 1747, the Moravians built a smithy in Shamokin and commenced a mission, which was continued until the breaking out of hostilities in 1755. Marx Kiefer, the smith, was the last member to leave in October of the last written year.

John Martin Mack, the journalist, was born in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, April 13, 1715. In 1735 he was dispatched to Georgia, and in 1740 left for Pennsylvania. Two years later he was appointed assistant in the Mohican mission at Shecomeco, Connecticut. His first visit to Shamokin was with Zinzendorf in 1742, and his second in 1745. In April of 1748 he commenced the mission at Gnadenhuetten, on the Mahoning, the field of his labors until 1755. During this interval he visited the Indian villages on the West Branch of the Susquehanna, and in 1752, accompanied Zeisberger to Onondaga. His first wife, who died at Gnadenhuetten in December of 1749, was well acquainted with the Mohawk and Delaware dialects. In 1781 he was assigned the superintendence of the missions in the Danish West Indies, and died on Santa Cruz, January 9, 1784. Mack's companion, Bernhard Adam Grube, was born in Germany in 1716, educated at Jena, and sent

to Pennsylvania in 1746. He was first employed in the schools at Bethlehem. In January he was stationed at Meniolagomeka, an Indian town (near Monroe County), where he studied the Delaware. After he returned from the West Branch with Mack he was dispatched to North Carolina, with a colony of Moravians to settle on the tract of 100,000 acres purchased of Earl Granville, in what was then Rowan County. In 1758 he was sent to the Indian mission in Connecticut; and in 1760 removed to Wechquetance on Hoeth's Creek, Monroe County, Pa. While here he translated into Delaware a hymn book, and a Harmony of the Gospels, for many years in use in the Delaware mission of his church. In 1765 he retired from the Indian mission. After serving in the rural congregations he died at Bethlehem, March 20, 1808, aged 93 years. This journal is a free translation from the original German."

**Crowding the Isothermal Line.**

The persimmon, though a well-known small fruit as far north as the Southern border of our State, is comparatively unknown in this latitude. Although, the seeds are planted here the trees produced will grow and flourish so far as foliage and wood making are concerned, yet they fail most lamentably in fruit bearing in almost every instance where the growing of the tree has been tried. Perhaps if it were grafted or budded from a bearing tree it would do better.

Probably the most noteworthy persimmon tree known in the Atlantic States is one now growing at the home of the late Charles F. Welles, Esq., at Wyalusing, Bradford County. This tree grew from a seed given to Mr. Welles by the late Matthias Hollenback on his last trip northward, in the fall of the year 1823. The seed was planted and grew; but the climate proving unpropitious, the tree has maintained a precarious and unthrifty existence for fifty-eight years, being now barely eighteen or twenty feet in height. It has been transplanted, once cut down, and many times nipped by zero frosts, until of late years it has become so acclimated that frost has no more terrors. Unfortunately, though blossoming every year, the flowers are pistillate, so that in more than half a century but one solitary fruit has ever been known to reward the cultivator. This year, however, the record was broken by the appearance of four little persimmons upon the two topmost branches. We say "little" advisedly, as the specimen shown to us by Edward Welles was barely three-fourths of an inch in diameter, not much larger than a plump cherry.

**Early Wilkes-Barre Merchants.**

[The following item was one of several received in reply to the Record's request for some early reminiscences.—Ed.]

It has occurred to me as proper to jot down a few particulars of the first merchants of Wilkes-Barre, as I knew them more than 60 years ago.

Of course G. M. Hollenback ranks first. Along the whole bank of the Susquehanna, no man was better known. His amenity of address and winning expression of facial features were remarkable. He dressed with more taste than any man of the county. His manner was perfection. I was accustomed to regard Mr. Hollenback with an awe of deference and admiration never since bestowed on any man on earth.

When I first knew the brick store on the corner at the bridge Ziba Bennett was head clerk behind the counter. He was certainly a model merchant. He was a paragon in the line of business adopted in early life and continued through so many succeeding years. He was the idol of country customers for many miles around. Notes of commendation regarding this attractive clerk and salesman trilled on every matron's tongue.

Following Mr. Bennett came two other individuals, subsequently established in successful careers, N. Butter and A. O. Laning. It was their good fortune to begin life under the influence of such a man as Hollenback. Comment is superfluous touching these men so recently known by the people of Luzerne.

Then there was another merchant located farther down on River Street. Very few of the men now in Wilkes-Barre had personal knowledge of Jacob Cist. I might name Capt. Dennis and Mr. Butter. I don't call to mind any others. In Kingston, Col. Dorrance.

Mr. Cist was acting postmaster, when I first saw him. I called to ask for letters. He was busily writing behind the counter and seemed annoyed in being interrupted. No wonder. It was shameful that a man so far outstripping his fellow countrymen in science, art and philosophy, should be chained down to the routine of a menial clerkship. But he must make his bread like other men, though all the aspirations of his genius rose to the contemplation of grander things. Instead of Aime Bonpland of the Paris botanic garden, he should have been the companion of Humboldt in his voyage of scientific exploration. He was capable for the task. From a bug or butterfly, up through the range of all the ologies to an iron mountain and the inauguration of the coal trade, he was in his proper sphere. When other men were groveling in the mud of DeWitt Clinton's ditches, and blockading the channels of our

grand river with dams, Mr. Cist was forestalling the superior system of railroads as means of transportation. If the Legislature had listened to him a great deal of blasphemy might have been saved to the raftmen, and our supply of snad escaped annihilation. But he knew, and others didn't.

But a few months before his untimely death he made a day's visit at my father's house. Such was the delight, his courteous manner excited in my boyish heart, I forgave him the coolness exhibited in the post office. And to this day regard it a special honor, that it was my privilege to have seen the most cultured man of the North.

Doylstown.

C. E. WAGG.

**The First Marriage in Carbondale.**

[From the Carbondale Leader.]

The first marriage that ever took place in Carbondale, according to Alderman Thompson, was performed in the year 1828, by Justice of the Peace Potter, who lived at or near Razorville (now Providence.) It was under very peculiar circumstances that the ceremony was performed; and was not at all by the "joining of hands." And for this reason: The bride, whose name is forgotten by the alderman, lived in Carbondale, and was to meet the groom, whose name was Isaac Williams, at the "old Jessup log tavern," which stood not a great distance from the present site of the Episcopal parsonage, at a certain day and hour. Meantime Williams had gone to Providence to bring Squire Potter up to do the business, while the bride was to be on hand promptly. But it happened that during the absence of Williams a heavy rainstorm came up raising the streams suddenly and among them the Fall Brook over which on a temporary bridge the twain were to pass, just below Carbondale. Before they arrived at the bridge the sudden freshet had carried it away, and of course they could not cross. The bride, nothing daunted, and knowing the state of affairs sallied down to where the bridge had stood, and the squire actually married the couple thus separated by the raging flood. The young woman returned to her home, and her husband accompanied the justice back to Providence and waited till the waters abated, which was but a day or two, when he returned to claim his bride. w.

G. G. Wood, of Muncy, has the original manuscript of a field diary, or notes made by Surveyor Samuel Harris in the year 1774, while running a line from Tioga to the Delaware river. It is largely made up of the county now embraced in Susquehanna county.

**CAPT. DENNIS DEAD.**

**The Oldest Native of Wyoming Valley Passes Away at the Age of Three Score and Fifteen.**

Shortly after midnight, Nov. 7, Capt. James P. Dennis, whose death had been expected for several days, fell quietly into his last sleep of earth, at the hotel of Col. H. A. Laycock, where he had latterly made his home. He had been confined to his room for some three weeks with a kidney trouble. During his illness he received every possible attention from the family of Col. Laycock and from Mrs. Dr. Dennis.

Capt. Dennis had the distinction of being the oldest native of Wilkes-Barre. He was a grandson of Judge Jesse Fell, whose name is so prominently associated with the use of anthracite coal and was born in the old Fell House.

He was a pupil of the Old Academy which in early days stood near where the present court house now stands. In 1833 deceased was in Philadelphia engaged with John P. Baab, of Wilkes-Barre, who had the contract for building the Columbia bridge across the Schuylkill. Afterwards he went west and became captain of the steamboat *State of Maine* running on the Ohio and Mississippi.

About 1861 he was freight agent for the L. & S. RR., in this city, but since that time he has resided in and about Wilkes-Barre not engaged in active business, other than looking after the property which had accumulated under his prudent management. He was a Past Master of Lodge 61, F. A. & M., which ancient organization attended his funeral in a body.

The following biographical sketch is from the pen of Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming:

Died in Wyoming, at 12:30 p. m., on Monday, Nov. 7, 1897, James Plater Dennis, late of the city of Wilkes-Barre. His parents were both natives of Bucks County, Pa., and were married at Wilkes-Barre by Rev. And. Hoyt Jan. 17, 1811.

Jacob John Dennis, his father, was born in 1783, and came to Wilkes-Barre when a young man and engaged in the cabinet-making business. He soon after married Abi, daughter of Hon. Jesse Fell, an associate judge of Luzerne County. They had the following children:

James Plater, born March 26, 1812, died unmarried Nov. 7, 1897.

Nancy Ann, born Nov. 1, 1813, married T. Truxton Slocum.

Norman James, born 1815, died unmarried.

Wedding Fell, born 1817, married Catharine Frothingham.

Hannah, born Sept. 7, 1818, married O. B. Hillard.

Katherine Scott, born 1822, married Bartlett Murdock.

Ann is the only one of these now living. She is a resident of Colorado.

Capt. James P. Dennis, quite early in life, about 1835, went forth to engage in business for himself. The great West then, as now, seemed to offer the best opening for a young man of enterprise and energy, and thither he directed his young footsteps. Arriving at Pittsburg an opportunity offered him to go down the Ohio and Mississippi on a steamboat in a paying capacity, which he accepted and made the trip to New Orleans and return. So satisfactorily had he performed the duties entrusted to his charge, that upon his return he was offered and accepted the position of captain upon one of the line of steamers plying between Pittsburg and New Orleans, in which capacity he acted for many years. Hence his title of captain. Tiring of this business, and having laid aside some money, he returned to Wilkes-Barre, where he soon afterward was appointed superintendent of the old Easton and Wilkes-Barre Turnpike, the duties of which he performed for many years, until, at his suggestion, the gates were thrown open and the road given to the public.

In 1858, he joined, with several of his fellow townsmen of Wilkes-Barre, in forming and organizing the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, and has been an active, earnest member, prominent in all its operations and rejoicing in its success.

In 1861, after the breaking out of the late civil war, he was appointed Provost Marshal for this district and made the first enlistment and draft, and so well and correctly was his work done that upon the reorganization, under an act of Congress, he was offered a reappointment but refused to accept on the ground that the labor of the office was too great and too exacting. His performance of the duties of the office were in bright contrast with that of his successor, and redounded very greatly to his credit and honor.

When the city of Wilkes-Barre was incorporated, he was appointed one of the assessors to assess the valuation of property in the growing city. A work requiring not only a vast amount of labor but a nice discriminating judgment. In the performance of this duty he not only did his work thoroughly, but well and to the entire satisfaction of all parties interested. He has been somewhat afflicted with age and the weakness that follows in its train, for 6 years or more past has resided at Wyoming, with Col. Laycock, where he patiently and bravely awaited the final result fully aware of its slow but sure coming.

Capt. Dennis was a man of sound judgment, possessed of a vast amount of information about public men and affairs, of high and pleasant social characteristics, dignified and honorable in his intercourse with men, and a worthy representative of honorable ancestors.

#### S. JENKINS.

The funeral of the late Capt. J. P. Dennis was attended from the residence of Mrs. Ruth B. Hillard, on West River Street, by a large concourse of people. Those among the gathering of riper years were there to assist and attend the last sad rites of a companion with whom so many associations had been connected, and the younger portion of the assemblage attested their respect for the memory of one so well and favorably known. The members of Masonic Lodge No. 61 attended in a body, and the services at the grave were conducted by them. At the house Rev. H. E. Hayden conducted the services, as well as acting as masonic chaplain at the grave. The pall-bearers were Hon. Steuben Jenkins, H. A. Laycock, Dr. George Urquhart, W. W. Loomis, Theron Burnet, John Laing, Isaac Livingston, H. C. Reichard. The interment was at Hollenback Cemetery.

#### CAPT. DENNIS' WILL.

**A Codicil Made a Week Before His Death Practically Revoking a Will of 1871—The Property Goes to His Sister and Nieces.**

The will of the late Capt. James P. Dennis was probated November 12. The instrument is dated April 11, 1871, and witnessed by E. S. Loop and John Welles Hollenback. It provides that his executors, Dr. W. F. Dennis and E. G. Butler, should divide the proceeds of the real estate among the four legatees named in the will. But a codicil virtually revokes the will though the legatees are the same. It is dated Oct. 31, 1887, a week before his death, and is witnessed by Steuben Jenkins, William Gunton and H. A. Laycock. The executor under the codicil is L. J. Fogel, of this city. It disposes of his estate as follows:

His interest in the Main Street property where Dr. Taylor lives, to his niece, Mrs. Katherine Murdock Seymour, of Brooklyn, and to his niece, Helen Dennis Rathbone, of New York, daughter of the late Dr. W. F. Dennis, the doctor's widow, however, to have a life interest in Helen's part.

The property in rear of Harvey's building on Franklin Street, now occupied by a livery stable, to Helen Dennis Rathbone, her mother to have a life interest.

His interest in the vacant 60-foot lot nearly opposite the Franklin Street M. E.

Church, to his niece, Mrs. Abi D. Titcomb, of Platte Canon, Colorado.

His stock in the Wyoming Valley Ice Co. (\$1,000) and in the Wilkes-Barre Water Co. (\$850) to Mrs. Abi D. Titcomb. Also to her the coal under two lots on North Main Street, the surface sold to Daniel Metzger, on which Buell Block has lately been erected.

490 acres of land, 18 miles from Denver, to his sister, Mrs. Ann D. Slocum, of Platte Canon City, during her life time, and then to her children, Abi D. Titcomb, Benjamin Slocum, Ellen Maria Stauss and Norman J. Slocum.

All the rest and residue of his estate, real personal and mixed, to his sister, Ann D. Slocum, and his nieces, Mrs. Helen D. Rathbone, Mrs. Katherine M. Seymour, Mrs. Abi D. Titcomb, in equal shares.

His interest in the Wilkes-Barre property bequeathed is estimated at about \$20,000.

Mention is made in the will that he entertains the kindest and most affectionate regards for his sister, Mrs. Hannah E. Manpin, (now deceased), but considering that she had a large abundance of estate and wealth, he makes disposition to those who are not so well favored.

B. M. Espy, Esq., is attorney for the executor, and we are indebted to him for the facts given above.

#### A Well Known Engineer Dead.

P. Mack, better known as "Commodore" Mack, a well known engineer on the Lehigh Valley RR., died Oct. 27 at his home in Kingston. "Commodore" Mack was between 55 and 60 years of age, and drove one of the heavy engines on the mountain division of the Lehigh Valley. He was one of the oldest and most trusted engineers of the company. For a year past he has been suffering with a liver affection. He leaves a wife and two children.

The RECORD's Kingston correspondent sends the following:

The oldest child is a son about 19 now connected with the Pennsylvania RR. at Wilkes-Barre, and he leaves a little girl about eight years. Mr. Mack had railroaded for twenty-seven years, first on the D. L. & W., then on the Lehigh Valley. Since his connection with the Valley he either rode on horse back or drove in a one horse buggy, leaving home about 4:30 every morning. This he has followed over twelve years. He was one of the most trusted engineers on the road and held in high esteem by his employers. He was sick over eight months and was a very patient sufferer. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Kingston, who took charge of his remains. Funeral Friday at 2 pm. Services at the house. Interment at Forty Fort.

**A BRAVE SOLDIER DEAD.**

**John C. Barber, Who Spent Nearly a Score of Years Fighting Indians and Confederates, Dies from an Accident.**

John C. Barber, a veteran of the War of the Rebellion, as also a brave Indian fighter, died Thursday, Nov. 3, in Pittston, aged 56 years. Mr. Barber was injured about three months ago by having a bale of wool fall on his back while engaged at his work in the knitting mill. The injury to his spine resulted in his death. He was a member of Nugent Post, G. A. R., of the Red Men and other organizations, by whom he was buried on Sunday in West Pittston.

Mr. Barber was a born fighter and he had seen service of the most arduous kind. When a young man he learned the chair-making trade with Kilmer & Johnson on North Main Street, and his first lessons in military life were learned as a member of the Wyoming Artillerists about 1853. Two years later he enlisted with Capt. Frank Bowman in the regular army, being ordered soon after to Oregon to fight the Indians. It was in this campaign that the lamented and beloved Capt. Bowman lost his way in the pathless forest where roils the Oregon, and young Barber was one of the men who found his dead body.

This campaign over he re-enlisted in the regular army and served 15 years in the 2d and 5th Cavalry. In 1873 he was discharged at Camp Grant, Arizona, as orderly sergeant. In the meantime he had fought bravely during the war between the States and was twice captured. Once he escaped after 24 hours' captivity but the second time was less fortunate, being held a prisoner for four months at Belle Isle. After the war was ended he married a lady whom he had met while on duty in North Carolina. She survives him, as does a son 14 years old. With all his exposures to the perils of the field Mr. Barber sustained but a single wound—that of a pistol shot through the ear. After abandoning the life of a soldier Mr. Barber located in Pittston, where he was identified with the knitting mill from its start.

He was a son of the late John Barber, a well-known former resident of Wilkes-Barre. He is survived by two brothers and two sisters—J. J. Barber, baggage master at the L. & S. depot, this city; S. J. Barber, Pawling, N. Y.; Mrs. E. A. Tracy, Easton; Mrs. Miller Swainbank, Wilkes-Barre. Deceased was about 56 years of age.

The *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin* is publishing a series of interesting sketches of early members of the Lycoming Bar, by John F. Wolfinger, Esq.

**Death of a Respected Citizen.**

Amos Buckman Winder, whose death occurred on Tuesday morning, Nov. 1, was born in Upper Makefield Township, Bucks County, Pa., March 19, 1802.

He was married twice, his first wife being Miss Catharine Heed, of Bucks County, whom he wedded in 1824, and by whom he had four sons, Harry, Isaiah, Jacob and Charles, two of whom are living. She died in 1849. He subsequently wedded Miss Jean Aitken, of Trenton, N. J., in 1850, by whom he had two sons, Robert A. R. Winder, who is employed in the job rooms of the Room office, and Joseph, a prominent conductor on the L. & S. RR. She died June 20, 1882.

Squire Winder was born of Quaker parentage and lived in that faith until 1850, when he was baptized in the Delaware river and became a member of the First Baptist Church of Trenton, N. J., of which his second wife was a prominent member.

He taught school from 1820 until 1835, in the counties of Philadelphia, Northampton and Carbon, when he was admitted to the Philadelphia bar, practicing as a land lawyer and real estate agent. When the financial crisis of 1856 came, he moved to White Haven and assumed control of the public schools of that borough for some time. He remained there until 1863, when he moved to Wilkes-Barre, and was employed in the court house as clerk under Pier, Kunkle, Kirkendall, Erath and others. He was elected in 1869 justice of the peace of the Third Ward of the old borough of Wilkes-Barre, and after the borough became incorporated into a city he became an alderman of the Eleventh and Twelfth Wards, and served until 1874, since which time he has been in no public office. In all his dealings he was fair and square and no one can speak aught against him. He was at one time head clerk under the late Peter Cooper, when he ran the rolling mills at Trenton, N. J. Until a few years ago he took an active part in politics. But was always found, first in the Whig and afterwards in the Republican ranks.

Death was due to the rupture of a blood vessel in the brain and occurred at the residence of his son Joseph, in this city.

Rev. Marcus Alden Tolman, the Episcopal rector of Mauch Chunk, Pa., has a chair which belonged to the Priscilla courted by John Alden for Miles Standish when she said, "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" He is a descendant of John Alden, while Thomas Lansford Foster, one of the vestrymen of his church, is a descendant of Miles Standish. Mrs. T. W. Brown, of Wilkes-Barre, is a daughter of Mr. Foster.

**Death of an Old Citizen.**

Nelson Marshall, an old and highly esteemed citizen, died at his home, 15 South Welles Street, Sunday morning, Oct. 30, of general debility. He had been ailing for some years past. His entire family, who reside here, were at his bedside. There survive him his wife, Rachael Brown, and all their children, Benjamin Marshall, deputy tax collector; Norman F., Walter, Mary, wife of Mr. Labar; Harriet, wife of Guy Baird; all of this city, and William and Jerome, who reside in Paris, Texas.

He was born in Detutt, Monroe County, on the 18th January, 1813, and resided in this city since 1848. He came here in that year and engaged in the lumber business, which he carried on very successfully for many years, until the general depression of business in 1873. At this time he was an endorser of notes to an extent which caused him to lose his fortune. He was better to others than others proved to him. In 1860 he kept a large canal grocery on Union Street, and did a general mercantile business but lost much money by giving an extensive credit.

He leaves a brother, Emanuel Marshall, the only one of the side of his family, who resides in Laurel Run Borough, near the old tollgate, below the Mountain House.

The deceased was known for his generous feelings, and his kind disposition, and his friendship for the poor was as strong as for the rich.

**Death of a Centenarian.**

Mrs. Catherine Paxton, widow of Judge Paxton, died at the home of her son, Lloyd Paxton in Rupert Monday at the remarkable age of 100 years. Had she lived until Dec. 28 she would have been 101 years old. Her maiden name was Rupert and the town of Rupert was named for her father. Mrs. Paxton died on the same grounds on which she was born, the original log house being still standing. Though she had traveled she never lived two miles away from the old home. Her husband was one of the leading spirits in the building of the Catawissa RR., now leased to the Reading, and he started the iron works at Irondale, near Bloomsburg. Mrs. Paxton leaves a family of sons who are widely scattered. Lloyd is an officer in the Salem Coal Co. at Shickshinny, and Charles, who is wealthy and lives in Virginia, is president of the Bloomsburg Iron Co. Mrs. Scott, of Catawissa, is a daughter, and Bright Paxton, who lives on the West Branch, is a son. Mr. Paxton has a younger sister living in Bloomsburg, Miss Harriet Rupert. The son Lloyd never married, but devoted his home life to his mother.

**Died at Ninety.**

Mrs. Mary A. Garretson, widow of Stephen Garretson, formerly of Reddington, New Jersey, died at the residence of her grand daughters, Misses Ella, Lizzie and Edith Harvey, 47 Union Street, at an early hour Tuesday, Dec. 13. Mrs. Garretson was a sister of the late John Urquhart, father of Dr. George Urquhart and of Mrs. Leah Sturdevant, wife of Col. S. H. Sturdevant, of this city. She was the eldest child of George and Sarah (Pittinger) Urquhart, and was born Oct. 31, 1797, consequently she had passed the ninth decade of her life, an age which but few can hope to attain. She came to this city a widow in 1845, bringing with her four daughters and one son, Charles Garretson, who married an adopted daughter of O. B. Drake. Mr. Garretson was engaged in the milling business for a time, and died some fifteen or more years ago. Only two of her children are now living, Mrs. Virginia Conover and Elizabeth, wife of Prof. Prætorious. Other grandchildren besides the Harveys are Miss Luu W. Conover and Wm. C. Conover, and Hattie and Harry Garretson, also Mrs. Edith Griswold, of Orwell, Bradford County. Her eldest daughter was the second wife of Col. E. B. Harvey. Mrs. Harvey died some years ago, leaving the two daughters, with whom the old lady has had her home for many years, and two sons, Oscar J. and Gilbert, the latter is at school at Lafayette College; Dr. O. F. Harvey is a step grandson of the deceased. Mrs. Garretson was a gentle and benevolent christian lady, and has been a consistent member of the First Presbyterian Church ever since she came to make her home in this place. The funeral was from her late residence at 2 pm. on Thursday.

**An Aged Lady's Death.**

Mrs. Sarah A. McDormott, died at her home in Dorrance Township on Dec. 4, 1887, at the age of 86 years. Deceased was born in Lebanon Co., Pa., in 1801, her maiden name being Romig. She was twice married. First at Harrisburg to Henry Keeler, by whom she had four children, only one of whom is living, Mrs. Susan Shotzer, of Plymouth. Her second husband was William McDormott, of Duncannon, Dauphin Co., who survives her at the age of 80. Of their four children three survive—Mrs. William Pickett, of Plymouth; Mrs. Peter Eckrote, of Dorrance, and Mrs. Elias Howell, of Wilkes-Barre. She was the step-mother of Josiah J. and William H. McDormott, of this city. She is also survived by 39 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Interment took place in Dorrance on the 7th of December.

**An Old Resident's Death.**

Mrs. Ann Breese, an old resident of Pittston, died of pneumonia on December 9 about 9:30 o'clock, after an illness of only about a week.

Mrs. Breese was born in Llanbrynmair, North Wales, and was about 71 years of age. She emigrated to this country in company with her husband, William Breese, in 1845, settling in Pittston, where she has resided ever since, and was at present the oldest Welsh person in Pittston. Three sons and two daughters survive her, all of whom are married and in well-to-do circumstances, as follows: A. W. and J. W., of Pittston; Morris W., of Wichita, Kansas; Mrs. D. W. Evans, of Pittston, and Mrs. A. K. Howe, of West Pittston.

Mrs. Breese was a woman of more than ordinary qualities, and was well and favorably known throughout the entire Wyoming Valley. Her death is deeply lamented by a large circle of friends. She has been a member of the Welsh Congregational Church ever since its organization, and was most faithful in her attendance upon all its meetings. Funeral Wednesday at 2. Interment in Pittston Cemetery.—*Gazette*.

**A Well Known Lady Dead.**

[From the Bethlehem Times.]

Mrs. Jane McLean, who departed this life Nov. 28, after an illness of four days, of hemorrhage of the stomach, was born at Mauch Chunk on Feb. 25, 1827. She was the daughter of Jonathan Simpson. Her husband was James L. McLean, who died at Summit Hill on Jan. 29, 1864. Shortly after his decease Mrs. McLean moved to Bethlehem, where she has since resided. Besides her husband she has buried eight children. Only one daughter survives her, Mrs. Harry L. Reed, of Mont Clair, N. J. She also leaves five grandchildren. Her son, James L. McLean, died at Wilkes-Barre on May 17, 1885; her daughter, Miss Dollie McLean, died May 8, 1883, and Mrs. McLean's brother, Thomas Simpson, of Mont Clair, N. J., died the following July. One brother survives her, Matthew Simpson, of Columbia, Pa.

Mrs. McLean was a consistent Christian and a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. Ever since the demise of her daughter, Miss Dollie, she has declined in health.

The funeral of Mrs. Jane McLean, mother of the late James L. McLean, took place in Bethlehem Dec. 1, and interment was made at Mauch Chunk. The pall bearers were: Robert H. Sayre, H. Stanley Goodwin, George H. Myers, J. B. Zimmele, C. E. Breder, Wm. C. Taylor, J. Upton Myers and Garrett L. Hoppes.

**Death of Jacob R. Flick.**

Shortly before midnight of November 28, Jacob Reimel Flick died at his home on Hanover Street. Though not a well man, he had been around as usual all day and ate his supper with his family. A few hours later he was seized with a congestive chill and died in a short time. He was a native of Northampton County, born in the year 1825, and came to Wilkes-Barre when 21 years of age. Until incapacitated by a seizure of palsy Mr. Flick had been an active business man, spending his last five years as clerk and bookkeeper of the Wilkes-Barre Gas Co. He was a member of the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the American Legion of Honor, carrying in the latter a policy of \$5,000 on his life. He leaves a widow and three daughters: Emma, wife of Orson Graham, who recently conducted a school for feeble minded children at Lunkhannock, and two unmarried daughters, Miss Nan and Miss Hattie. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, from the Central M. E. Church, of which he was a member.

Mr. Flick came from German stock, his ancestor having come to America in 1751. They settled in Northampton County, Pa., the head of the family, Gerlach Paul Flick, reaching the age of 99 years. Deceased is the fourth in descent from Gerlach, his grandfather being one of the latter's three sons. Each generation, down to the present, had a milling business. Jacob's father, Jacob Flick, was one of 12 children, the family in all its branches being noted for longevity. Deceased was a cousin of Reuben J. Flick, one of Wilkes-Barre's most prominent and wealthy citizens.

**Died in the Sunny South.**

Daniel Edwards received Monday morning the following telegram:

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Oct. 30.—Mr. David Morgan died in Ashville, N. C., this morning. Will be buried in Wilkes-Barre, Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 10 o'clock. Signed,  
M. D. REESE.

David Morgan, mentioned in the above message, was one of the pioneers of the development of the coal industry in this region. He, with Thomas Beaver, of Danville, and Isaac S. Waterman, of Philadelphia, were the original owners of the interest now owned by the Kingston Coal Co. After leaving this part of the country he located in Irondale, Ohio, and later in Marquette, Mich., in the Lake Superior iron ore region, where he has been for many years the president and principal stockholder of the Republic Iron Co. Mr. Morgan was about 68 years of age, and will be remembered by many of the older residents of the valley.

His wife is buried in Hollenback Cemetery, where he will be buried in the family lot.

On Tuesday evening the remains of David Morgan arrived in Wilkes Barre in charge of George D. Fisher, who had gone to Asheville, N. C., for the purpose of bringing them here for burial. Undertakers Voorhis & Murray took charge of the body, and Wednesday about noon the funeral took place, the burial being in Hollenback cemetery. Rev. N. G. Parke conducted the services, and the pall bearers were Hon. Daniel Edwards, of Kingston, and Theodore Strong, Thomas Ford, E. D. Lacey, C. L. McMillan, A. A. Bryden, of Pittston.

The funeral was largely attended, among those present being Mr. Charles S. Hibbard and his wife, a daughter of David Morgan; Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Evans and W. D. Reese, of Cleveland, O.; W. R. Storrs, C. F. Maltes and W. W. Manness, wife and daughter, of Soranton; Thomas Farr, of Elmira, N. Y.; E. G. Richards, of Steubenville, O.; Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Case, of Tobyhanna; Thomas Beaver, of Danville; Judge Cool, John Bryden, Adam Bryden, A. J. Griffiths, Alexander Craig, John Anderson and H. M. Stark, of Pittston; Hon. H. B. Payne and J. Bennett Smith, of Kingston; Payne Pettebone, of Wyoming. Deceased was an old friend of Daniel Edwards and a fellow toiler in their early days.

#### Mrs. Henrietta Frauenthal Dead.

We have to note the death of Mrs. Henrietta Frauenthal, wife of Samuel Frauenthal, of this city Tuesday, Oct. 8. Mrs. Frauenthal was a native of Prussia and aged 55 years at the time of her death. She was the mother of nine children, who have always looked upon her as the best of mothers and feel deeply their loss. Mrs. Frauenthal was a sister of Herz and Samuel Lowenstein and of Mrs. Bernard Frauenthal of this city. The funeral took place from their residence, corner of Main and Northampton Street at 2 o'clock on Nov. 11. Interment in the Jewish Cemetery at Hanover.

#### An Old Stage Driver Dead.

[From the Easton Express, Dec. 1.]

Samuel Shafer, living near Brodheadville, in Monroe County, died a few days ago, aged about 80 years. Years ago Mr. Shafer was well-known in Easton, he being for a long a stage driver between Easton and Wilkes-Barre, the route being over the turnpike through the Wind Gap. Mr. Shafer was in poor circumstances when he became old, and himself and wife had to be kept by the children. Happily, a year or so ago, he obtained a pension which enabled him to buy a farm.

#### Death of an Old Citizen.

Marx Lederer, an old resident of Wilkes-Barre, died in New York Wednesday, Oct. 28, from brain trouble brought on by an accidental injury received while alighting from a street car. The injury was received some weeks ago and not thought serious but eventually proved such.

Mr. Lederer has resided in Wilkes-Barre much of the time since 1857, but was a native of Bohemia. His trade was that of a tanner, and he was engaged in that business here for a good many years, up to 1873, when he with thousands of others in the same business, failed through the effects of the panic of that year. Mr. Lederer was a good citizen taking a lively interest in the welfare of the city and valley.

He has resided several years ago in New York where he leaves family, consisting of his widow, two daughters and two sons, all living in New York. One of the former, Matilda, is the wife of Herman Oppenheimer, formerly in business here, and the other Emma, Mrs. Lewison, a widow. His two sons are Lewis and George W., the latter, the show manager.

#### An Old School Teacher Buried.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Wright Norton, relict of the late Wm. B. Norton, took place from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. John Wroth, on South Franklin Street, Nov. 25. The service was read by Rev. Henry L. Jones and Rev. H. E. Hayden. The pall bearers were L. D. Shoemaker, N. Rutter, R. Sharpe and L. C. Paine and interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. Mrs. Norton taught a select school in Wilkes-Barre for many years and her death is mourned by a host of friends.

#### Charles Prentice Hodge Dead.

Intelligence has been received from Auburn, Indiana, of the death of Charles Prentice Hodge at that place, on the 8th of November. Mr. Hodge was born at Le Raysville, Bradford Co., this State, Dec. 16, 1834. He was the fourth son of Rev. James Hodge, and was a descendant of Capt. Samuel Ransom, and is related to many persons in this valley, including the Franklins of Huntington, Davenport and Ransoms, of Plymouth, Smiths of Kingston, and Monroes of this locality. Mr. Hodge taught school in this county for many years, and prepared for college at the Wyoming Seminary. He was graduated from Union College in 1862 with the degree of A. B. and A. M., and during his student life he distinguished himself for his proficiency in mathematics and the natural sciences.

On the 18th of August succeeding his graduation, he enlisted in the 141st Reg. Pa. Vol., but after being in the hospital for



several months, he was honorably discharged, because of disabilities existing previous to his enlistment. April 14, 1863, he married Julia E., only daughter of Hon. E. B. Mott, and a niece of the late Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, the authoress. She was once a teacher in the Wyoming Seminary, and is related to several Kingston families, including the Meyers. One year after he married he moved to Auburn, Indiana, where he lived up to the time of his death. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and was held in the highest regard by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and three children, two sons and a daughter to revere his memory.

#### A Son of a Pioneer Dead.

Thomas Myers, a former prominent citizen of Luzerne County, died at his home in Williamsport, on Saturday, Dec. 3, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis sustained a few days before.

Mr. Myers, who was 86 years of age, was born in Forty Fort, his father, Philip Myers, having been of the early settlers of the valley of Wyoming. Deceased resided at Forty Fort and Kingston until about 20 years ago, when he removed to Williamsport and lived there ever since.

He was elected sheriff of Luzerne County in 1836, and was clerk for the county commissioners in 1834 and 1835. He took an active part in the Democratic politics of his younger days and exerted a great influence upon the local political events with which he was contemporary.

It is said he took an interest in S. S. Winchester, then a friendless and strange boy in Wilkes-Barre, and gave him the education which afterward served him so good a purpose in his legal career in Wilkes-Barre.

After leaving the sheriff's office he was appointed as superintendent of the North Branch Canal extension from Pittston to Towanda.

He was one of the founders of Wyoming Seminary and it was his generous financial aid of that project which antedated the prize from Wilkes-Barre and located it in Kingston. He also gave the land on which the Seminary is built.

Mr. Myers was twice married. His first wife was a daughter of Thomas Borbidge, a Kingston merchant, for whom Mr. Myers clerked. Of this marriage there survive two children, Philip Myers, of Chicago, and Fannie, wife of Henry B. Myers, also of Chicago. Deceased spent a greater portion of the present year in Chicago visiting his children. A year or so ago he was in Wilkes-Barre and his acquaintances were delighted to see him in such seeming vigor.

His second wife was Miss Vanderbilt, who was a sister of the wife of his intimate friend,

Gov. Packer. A son, George, is living in Williamsport.

He had four brothers, all of whom are dead — John, (father of Lawrence and P. H. Myers, of Wilkes-Barre,) Henry, William and Lawrence. Of his sisters only one is living, Harriet, widow of Madison Myers, of Kingston. Other sisters married Abram Goodwin, Rev. Dr. George Peck, Rev. Joseph Castle, and Emmaus Locke.

Mr. Myers' mother was Martha Bennet, also of pioneer stock. She was in the fort at the time of the massacre and was taken prisoner by the Indians but escaped. The Bennet and Myers families again became united a century later, when the late Major D. S. Bennet, of the Luzerne bar, married Miss Mary Margaret Myers, daughter of Lawrence Myers, a grand niece of deceased.

#### A Veteran Clergyman Dead.

Rev. James McDowell Tuttle, father of Rev. A. H. Tuttle, of the Franklin Street M. E. Church, who died on Nov. 23, 1887, was born June 12, 1806, and licensed to preach in 1834. The next year he was called into the itinerant service. He filled many important stations, among them Jersey City, Bordentown, Trenton, Madison, Rahway and Bloomfield. He was corresponding secretary of the Conference Tract Society for four years; presiding elder seven years, four of them in the Newark District; about two years agent and corresponding secretary of the United States Sanitary Commission; twelve years master of the conference seminary and one year financial agent; a member of the Board of Managers of the Mission Society of the M. E. Church nearly twenty years and several years a member of the General Missionary Committee. He was a member of the General Conference in 1860; one of the incorporators of the Drew Theological Seminary at Madison, N. J., and several years secretary, trustee and managing agent of the Executive Committee. He also filled various other responsible positions in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a son of Jabez Tuttle, who was the fifteenth and youngest child of Daniel Tuttle, who with five of his sons served in the Revolutionary army. Daniel Tuttle was a son of Timothy Tuttle, of Woodbridge, N. J., who was the son of Stephen Tuttle, who was of Woodbridge in 1695. Stephen Tuttle was the son of Joseph Tuttle and was of New Haven in 1640, when he was baptised. Joseph Tuttle was the son of William Tuttle, who was born in England and emigrated to New England in 1635. He was a passenger on the ship "Planter."

**Death of a Merchant.**

Henry N. Sherman, the well known commission merchant of this city, died at his home 71 Northampton Street Nov. 24 after a protracted illness from a kidney affection. Mr. Sherman came from an old Connecticut family his great-grand father having been a brother of the historic Roger Sherman. Born in Washington, Conn., he made his way on foot to Pennsylvania when a mere lad, determined to win success in a region where so many from his native State for a hundred years had found fame or fortune. His birthday was Nov. 25, 1832, and had he lived a day longer he would have reached his 55th birthday.

Settling in Wyoming county, he became an extensive and successful merchant at Tunkhannock. Some fifteen years ago he went to New York and engaged in business for two or three years, coming to Wilkes-Barre, however, in 1875, and engaging in the commission business, as Sherman & Lathrop, his partner being his life long friend, Dr. I. B. Lathrop, of Springville, Susquehanna Co., an extensive and popular practitioner of medicine in that region. The business continued without interruption up to the present, though for the last three years Mr. Sherman has been in poor health. His malady attacked him three years ago and slowly but surely undermined his health and dragged him down. He sought change of air at mountain and seashore, but without avail. He spent last summer under the medical care of his partner, but returned in September. His condition was known to his family, so that his death was only a matter of time and does not come with that painful suddenness which crushes so many families. He is survived by his widow—who was Miss Stella Handrick, of Washington, Conn.—and by two sons, both living in New York City. Henry S. is a lawyer by profession and is private secretary to Mayor Abram S. Hewitt. Augustus F. is a law student and is private secretary to Police Commissioner Voorhis, of New York. Both were called home by telegram but were not apprised of their father's death until their arrival. Mrs. E. S. Kelly, of Tunkhannock, is a sister of deceased.

His correct habit of life, his genial disposition, together with a cultured mind made him a favorite with all who knew him and a large circle of friends will mourn the fact that though coming from a family of great longevity, he should have fallen by the wayside comparatively so young. Mr. Sherman was a communicant in St. Stephen's Church. Rev. H. L. Jones read prayers at the house at 1 pm. on Saturday after

which the body was taken to Tunkhannock on the 2:15 train, at which place he was buried with Masonic honors by Temple Lodge, of which he was a member.

**Death of Christian Kropp.**

Christian Kropp, aged 48 years, died rather suddenly at his home, 365 North Franklin Street, on Nov. 24, of sporadic cholera. The deceased was a shoemaker by occupation and did business for many years at 207 Academy Street. He was well known to this community, having lived here nearly all his lifetime. He was a son of Peter Kropp, Sr., and his father and mother survive him. He came with his parents to this city from New York when but two years of age. The deceased was married and leaves a wife and six children, the oldest being Charles, aged 21, who has for many years been a clerk at the store of Henry Hoffheimer. The others are Mamie, aged 18, Annie, aged 17, Eddy, aged 9, Emily, aged 4, and a baby aged 18 months. When the Volunteer Fire Department was in vogue the deceased was a member of the Good Will No. 2, and for many years was an active and efficient fireman. He took an active part during the war in many incidents and was among the Pennsylvania Volunteers. His illness came upon him suddenly. He had been at work all day on Wednesday and was taken ill while going to his home in the evening. He was seized with cramps of the entire body, passed into a condition of fatal collapse.

The funeral of Christian Kropp took place from his late residence, North Franklin Street on Saturday afternoon. There was a large attendance of veterans and friends, who paid their last tributes to the deceased. Rev. Casper Gregory officiated at the residence and at the grave, and spoke in touching phrases of the dead veteran, the husband and father of a large and sorrowing family. The floral tributes from his comrades of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, of which he had been a member, were many and in elegant designs. The casket was born to the hearse by Philip Reinaman, B. H. Brodhun, and Adolph Frabley, comrades of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and Alex Lendrum, Charles Engel and H. D. Braning intimate friends of the deceased. The cortege that followed the remains to the grave was a large one, and interment was in the city cemetery.

**Mayor Sutton's Dead Uncle.**

[From the Daily Record, Dec. 7.]

When a RECORD reporter was on his round at the mayor's office last evening he fell into conversation with Mayor Sutton on the death of the latter's uncle, Stephen M. Buckingham, of Pottkeepsie, N. Y. He was

nearly 80 years old, having been born in Willimantic, Conn., in 1806, and he had a very remarkable career. He was a charitable man, though not ostentatious in his charities, and his loss will be keenly felt by all those who were ever the recipients of his kindness.

Mr. Buckingham's life was one of peculiar interest. Very little is known of his boyhood and his immediate family other than that he came from Connecticut, and that his relatives have acquired reputations from the stations they have held in the political and in the business world. He was educated in the famous Colchester School. At 20 he entered a dry goods store in New York as clerk, and so gained the confidence of his employers, that at the age of 25 he was sent to England to make purchases for the firm. He made his home at Manchester, and often visited the continent of Europe in pursuit of business.

After a few years he commenced business for himself, in partnership with a Frenchman. He sojourned in England for 30 years during which time he acquired a strong regard for English life and English customs, and ever after spoke in affection of them. He never held public offices as far as Mayor Sutton knows and he never gave up his American citizenship.

He accumulated a large fortune by his own efforts, and afterwards having a taste for adventure and travel, he explored the River Nile, going up as far as the Upper Falls, stopping at intervals to make hunting and shooting excursions into the forest. The Upper Fall was the furthest point known of the Nile in those days, and few travelers ventured that far. After his return from Egypt, he joined a party of gentlemen who were explorers, and crossed the desert of Arabia Petra on camel's back, camping by the wells that lined the route.

His family connections were chiefly in Pokesepsie. He was married to a connection of Governor Morgan, of Connecticut, who held office in 1859. His wife survives him. His connection with public charitable institutions during his residence in Pokesepsie were many. His fortune is estimated at half a million dollars. The disposition of it is as yet unknown. The funeral took place on December 5, at Rural Cemetery, Pokesepsie.

A handsome monument was erected 3 months before he died. A few days before he was taken sick, he was making preparations to visit his Wilkes-Barre nephews, Mayor Sutton and James Sutton. He had several times visited this city. He was a member of the Episcopal Church of long standing, and was a strong temperance advocate. He was a cousin of Col. Charles Dorrance, of Kingston, also of Gov. Buckingham, of Connecticut.

#### Death of Miss Nancy Wintersteen.

The host of friends of Miss Nancy Wintersteen will be deeply pained to hear of her death in a Philadelphia hospital Nov. 27 she having gone thither to undergo a surgical operation of extreme gravity. The operation was performed on Wednesday, and consisted in the removal of a uterine fibroid tumor. Her sufferings had been intense for many months and death must have been a more welcome portion than would have been a continuance of life without relief.

Miss Wintersteen was a noble woman, and much of her strength was given to those who needed her kindly ministrations in the sick room. She was ever active in church and charitable work, and on one or two occasions she served as matron of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital during the vacations of the matron, Mrs. Davis. Deceased was a sister of Philip Wintersteen, of Plains, and she also had relatives in Bethlehem. During last summer she was engaged at Bear Creek, in charge of Albert Lewis' boarding house, but was ill most of the time.

A large concourse of the friends of the late Miss Nancy Wintersteen, assembled in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Tuesday afternoon. The body had been brought from the residence of Philip Wintersteen, at Plains, a brother of deceased, and placed in the parish building of the church, where it was viewed by friends. The features gave token of the intense suffering through which Miss Wintersteen had passed, and the peaceful, almost youthful, look in life had vanished. She had grown old within a few weeks. Upon the coffin lid was an inscription of name and age, the latter being 55 years. There were also some beautiful floral tributes. At 2 o'clock the coffin was borne to the church and deposited in front of the chancel, Rev. Henry L. Jones and Rev. H. E. Hayden, in their robes, preceding the carriers. The latter were F. J. Leavenworth, Hon. C. D. Foster, A. H. Van Horn, M. L. Driesbach, Woodward Leavenworth and S. O. Struthers. There were present relatives and friends from Summit Hill, the old home of the deceased, Bethlehem, Bear Creek, Glen Summit and elsewhere. Rev. Mr. Jones spoke briefly but feelingly of the useful life of deceased and many present were moved to tears. A quartet choir chanted "Lord let me know my end," "Abide with me," "I heard a voice from heaven," and sang "Jesus, lover of my soul." Mrs. R. B. Brundage and Miss May Brundage rendering the duet parts. A large number of prominent people were in attendance, many of whom followed to Hollenback Cemetery.

### A PREMONITION OF DEATH

**On the Part of a Well-to-do Lehman Farmer Whose Family Circle had Never Been Invaded by the Fell Destroyer.**

A few weeks ago B. W. Garey, a prominent and highly respected farmer of Lehman Township, was assisting his eldest son to bury a favorite domestic animal. The son remarked, "Father, we buried another not long ago. There may be ill luck in the figure three. I wonder what comes next." The father pointed to himself and remarked, "I will be the next." The son gave little heed to these sad words as the father was yet vigorous and had no bodily disease other than a chronic enlargement of the veins, which gave him some trouble. A week or so ago he was assisting his son butcher some hogs and he remarked he would never live to do so again. Soon after he was taken with chills and speedily sank into dissolution.

Bezalel W. Garey died on Dec. 8, at 1:45 am., at his home in Lehman, after an illness of only four days. His large family heretofore unbroken by death, were at his bed side, with the exception of one son, George, who lives in Michigan. Deceased was born April 8, 1819 in Windham Township Wyoming county, consequently he was 68 years of age. His father was Eleazer Gary of Windham, and his mother, who was Lydia Ooon, is still living at the advanced age of 87, in Michigan with a son, Samuel Garey. Deceased spent his earlier years in Columbia County, N. Y., Trumbull County, Ohio, and Jackson County, Michigan. In 1846 he returned to Wyoming Co., Pa., and two years later moved to Newton, now Lackawanna Co. On Sept. 23rd of that year he married Sarah Jane Thompson, daughter of John Thompson, of Newton, she surviving him. In 1852 he removed to Ross Township and cleared up a farm with the help of his older sons. He moved to Lehman in 1868, since which time he was engaged in farming, up to the date of his death. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church. His 9 sons and 3 daughters all survive their father: Lewis C., John T., Wm. T., Levi E., Lydia, James W., Joseph, Samuel F., Harriet, Bezalel, Albert, Elizabeth, all of whom live in the vicinity of Lehman, except William, whose home is in Platte, Benzie Co., Mich.

The funeral took place Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Presbyterian Church of Lehman, and he was laid to rest in the new cemetery adjoining. Rev. George G. Smith, of Beaumont, officiated and the pallbearers were William

Snyder, Leonard Machell, John Ferguson, Chester Fuller, Enoch Hoover and John Pellham.

Mr. Garey's will, made in 1884, names his eldest son, Lewis C. Garey, as executor. The latter lives on the farm.

### Early Susquehanna Navigation.

COLUMBIA, Pa., Oct. 25.—EDITOR RECORD: My attention has been called to an article in your paper of Oct. 14, headed "Early Susquehanna Navigation." The writer is mistaken in one particular, when he states that the steamboat Susquehanna did not ascend the river as far as Columbia.

I take the following extract from the minutes of the Presbyterian Sunday school in the handwriting of John McKissick, superintendent, who was the cashier of the Columbia Bank and Bridge Co.

"June 12, 1825.—The weather pleasant, but very warm. The steamboat came here last evening, and it is said was engaged in taking parties of pleasure out a sailing, which no doubt was one great cause why we had so few scholars."

The steamboat arrived at Marietta about June 15, 1825. It required one day to get it through the falls between Columbia and Marietta, a distance of two miles and a half.

Its arrival at Marietta was welcomed by the entire population, cannon were fired, and there was great rejoicing among the people.

The great number of arks, and board rafts which arrived at Marietta and Columbia, from points above those towns, on one freshet alone, amounted to more than sixteen hundred. At these towns new pilots were engaged to run the rafts to tide water, in charge of supercargoes, who sold the produce or lumber at Port Deposit. They knew that no steamboat could successfully navigate the river below Columbia, and they were not surprised to hear in a short time of the destruction of the "Susquehanna."

The State appropriated large sums of money at different times, to widen and deepen the raft channel below Columbia. To-day it is a very difficult stream to navigate, and there is scarcely a freshet which does not land several rafts upon the rocks, and are torn to pieces, although the most skillful pilots have been placed in charge of them. The descent of the river from Columbia to tide water is about two hundred and sixty feet. The water in many places is very rapid and the raft course tortuous and rocky.

SAMUEL EVANS.

**Meeting of the Historical Society.**

The quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held Dec. 9, 1897, in the rooms on Franklin Street, Rev. Henry L. Jones presiding. The attendance included Sheldon Reynolds, Rev. H. E. Hayden, G. B. Kulp, Charles Morgan, the Misses Alexander, A. H. McClintock, A. T. McClintock, Thomas Græme, Richard Sharpe, Mrs. O. D. Foster, Mrs. R. B. Ricketts, Mrs. S. Reynolds, O. B. Hillard, Miss Jean McClintock and others.

Squire James Crockett, of Irish Lane, notified the society of some Indian relics which they could obtain.

Sheldon Reynolds read a sketch of the Early History of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre.

Contributions were acknowledged from the following:

Library—Rhode Island His. Soc.; E. S. Loop, Wisconsin His. Soc.; Smithsonian Inst.; Amer. Museum of Nat. Hist.; Rev. H. E. Hayden, Cal. Hist. Soc.; E. H. Chase, Cayuga Hist. Soc.; Presbyterian Hist. Soc.; Leckawanna Inst. of Hist. and Science, American Congregational Ass'n, Amer. Geographical Soc., Amer. Cath. Hist. Soc., T. H. Lewis, Peabody Museum, Dr. W. H. Egle, Amer. Phil. Soc., Iowa Hist. Soc., Diplomatic Review, C. Ben Johnson, Wilkes-Barre Record, Old Residents Hist. Ass'n, J. D. Dreher, Hon. J. A. Scranton, U. S. Geological Survey, Astor Library; Library Co. of Phil., M. I. J. Griffin, U. S. Catholic Hist. Soc., N. J. Hist. Soc., E. F. Duren, Dr. D. G. Brinton, Amer. Geog. Soc.; Will S. Monroe, Canadian Inst.; T. P. Robinson, Buffalo Hist. Soc.; Rev. W. H. Olin, Geo. B. Kulp, Hon. M. B. Williams, C. L. A. Chapman, G. M. Reynolds, Hon. E. B. Coxe, Gen. C. W. Darling, Edward Welles, Hon. J. R. Wright.

Cabinet.—Osterhout executors, B. M. Espy, Dr. W. H. Sharpe, Otto Sittig, Geo. N. Maugher, C. W. Williams. The latter contributed a lot of Indian implements found on Stark and Courtright properties in Plains Township. Isaiah M. Leach contributed a quantity of Indian relics found on Leach's Island, in the Susquehanna.

Hon. E. L. Dana presented his reports as meteorologist for the months of June to November inclusive (September excepted), from which are taken the following figures:

The rain fall for June (12 days) was 8.48 inches; for July (12 days) 8.53 inches; for August (9 days) 8.97 inches; for October (10 days) 2.07 inches; for November (7 days) 1.79 inches.

Average temperature—June, 85½; July, 76.4; August, 84.7; October, 46.

**Back Among His Relatives.**

Robert Miner Abbott, formerly of Plains, who went West to grow up with the country over twenty years ago, arrived here with his daughter December 9, to visit his mother, Mrs. Hannah Abbott. Mr. Abbott is a prosperous business man, and his home is in Davenport, Iowa. He is cousin to Jno. M. Courtright and Hon. Charles Abbott Miner, of this city. Mrs. Abbott, his mother, is the widow of John Abbott, who formerly owned the farm upon which the colliery of H. Baker Hillman is located.

The farm was sold to Mr. Merritt, who lost his life in a wreck of one of the ocean steamers while on his return from a trip to Europe many years ago. Mrs. Abbott is a daughter of the Cernelius Courtright who was prominent in social and business circles hereabout some sixty years and more ago, and whose comfortable old farm house stood on the river bank just below Port Blanchard. She is a well-preserved old lady who will reach her 80th year if she lives to see the 7th of February next. She is fond of historical reminiscences of bygone days to delight the hearts of searchers after that kind of lore if they have the good fortune to be favored with an interview. She is living quietly with her two dutiful daughters, Misses Cassie and Lucy at their commodious residence, corner of Franklin and Jackson Streets, who are unremitting in their efforts to promote their mother's comfort in order that the sunset of her life may not be obscured by a cloud to mar the prospect as she approaches that better land beyond the skies.

**An Old-Time Foot Race.**

In the early part of May, 1835, John Meginess, of Wilkes-Barre, lived on the corner of Jackson Street, and worked for the late Supt. Gray as carpenter at the old Baltimore mine. In those days Mr. Meginess was a fleet runner, and was known as such all over the country on the line of the old canal from Wilkes-Barre to Port Deposit. In that day Wilkes-Barre had its sports, and among them was one Lazar Porter, who had vanquished all runners that came along, from up or down the Susquehanna. He gave Meginess a challenge, which was accepted, the race to take place on the river common, opposite the Wyoming Valley Hotel, River Street. The stakes were for \$25 a side. The day of the race came, Wilkes-Barre turned out and the 50 yard race was won by Meginess, by three yards. They afterwards repaired to Steele's Hotel and had a festive time. Mr. Meginess' faster running matches, will be noted in a subsequent issue.

## THE SULLIVAN JOURNALS.

Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden Replies to a Card from Hon. Steuben Jenkins Relative to the Journal of Major James Norris.

[The following letter from Rev. Mr. Hayden should have appeared several weeks ago, but its publication was unavoidably delayed and through no fault of his.—EDITOR.]

[Letter to the Editor.]

In your weekly issue of Oct. 8 the Hon. Steuben Jenkins called the attention of your readers to the marked similarity of the two journals of the Sullivan Expedition, written respectively by Col. Dearborn and Major Norris, as they are published in Mr. Conover's volume on "Gen. Sullivan's Indian Expedition." Mr. J. accounted for this similarity by charging the secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society, in whose care the original Norris Journal is kept, with having interpolated the Norris Journal with extended extracts from the Dearborn Journal.

As a member of the Buffalo Historical Society I felt it my duty to notice Mr. Jenkins' charge which I did by a denial in your issue of October 24th. The subject was brought to the attention of Mr. Geo. O. Barnum, the secretary of the society who has written me the following letter. As the previous articles on the subject have been published and will be preserved in the *Historical Record*, it is certainly due to Mr. Barnum, and the Buffalo Historical Society that this letter should also be published and similarly preserved—and that Mr. Jenkins have the opportunity to make the amende honorable, and which I have no doubt he will always do when he has been convinced of an error.

The address of O. H. Marshall, Esq., president of the Buffalo Historical Society, to which Mr. Barnum refers, was delivered before the society, Jan. 11, 1871. In it he refers to the Norris Journal thus: "Among the manuscripts received during the year is a bound volume, from the Hon. Joseph Williamson, of Belfast, Maine, containing the original journal of Major James Norris, who served under Gen. Sullivan in his famous expedition against the Senecas, of the Genesee country, in 1779. This journal bears internal evidence of its having been written from day to day, as the invading army advanced from its starting point at Easton, Pa., to Little Beardstown, on the west side of the Genesee river. It contains in minute details, the daily transactions with which Major Norris was connected, and a general account of all the important events which transpired during the campaign. The various encounters and skirmishes between the invaders and the Senecas are graphically de-

scribed as well as the destruction of the Indian villages along the track of the army, and in the valley of the Genesee. The manuscript is among the most valuable of our acquisitions, and well worthy of a place in the first volume of the collections of the Buffalo Historical Society."

This journal will be found in the "Buffalo Historical Society Collection, vol. 1, pp. 217-252, 1879. H. E. H.

## MR. BARNUM'S LETTER.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 4, 1887.—Rev. Horace E. Hayden—MY DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Wilkes-Barre RECORD of the 24th inst., (which came during my absence from the city) containing your letter to the editor in defence of the Buffalo Historical Society and myself against the charge of Hon. Steuben Jenkins on October 8.

It was very kind of you and I tender you my own and the society's thanks.

At the time of the original publication in 1879 by our society of the *Norris Journal*, Rev. Bigelow made the copy. It was not then generally known that there was a *Dearborn Journal* in existence and the Historical Society could not possibly ever have seen it.

When the Hon. George S. Conover was employed to edit and compile the work known as "Sullivan's Indian Expedition" he copied the *Norris Journal* from the 1st vol. of your publications in his possession and kindly asked me to compare it with the original in the archives of the society.

I can assure you, no alterations were made by me, save in the correction of typographical errors, spelling, punctuation, etc., to make the matter exact and literal.

The text itself in the original is all in one handwriting and shows that no interpolation had ever been made.

The same was presumed by Hon. O. H. Marshall when living and when president of the society in 1871 and who was an expert in such matters and who never doubted the authenticity of the journal.

Mr. Jenkins has done the society and its secretary great injustice by his publications in the Wilkes-Barre RECORD.

I am amazed that he should have made such a statement when he had not a particle of evidence to base even a suspicion upon.

I mail to you with this an address by the Hon. O. H. Marshall, president, delivered at the annual meeting of the society, January 11, 1871, in which he alludes to the *Norris Journal*, and hope you will read it.

I also mailed you our last year's report.

Again thanking you for the interest you have taken in my behalf in this matter,

I am, dear sir, very truly yours,

Geo. O. BARNUM,  
Corresponding Secretary.

**A New Historical Society.**

The Historical Society of the Church of the Covenant, is a new organization, which has for its object the study of American history, literature and institutions. The regular meetings of the society are private, but the society will give a series of eight public entertainments in Landmesser's Hall, one each successive month. These entertainments will be of a literary and musical nature, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, selections and papers, and discussions upon American subjects in general. There will also be a popular lecture course given in connection with these entertainments, in which some of the best local talent will appear, and arrangements are being made to secure one or more lecturers from a distance. The first entertainment and lecture was given Oct. 28. Dr. Hakes lectured on "The Philosophy of the Discovery of America."

He will be followed in the course by Hon. C. D. Foster, Rev. Dr. Jonathan Edwards, of Plymouth, and others.

**Donations to the Historical Society.**

George W. Manger, of Wapwallopen, has sent the Historical Society a curious horse-shoe, which was found at the works of Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Co., Berwick, in a heap of scrap iron brought from France. It is nearly 8 inches long and weighs 3½ pounds. It is almost impossible to conceive of such clumsy workmanship at this late day. Near the calks are two holes of half an inch in diameter, with a thread, probably intended for the insertion of additional calks in icy weather.

Dr. W. H. Sharp, of Nanticoke, has presented an ancient spoon, apparently silver, found at Beach Haven seven feet below surface of ground. The bowl is of about the capacity of an ordinary table spoon. The handle is four inches long and is straight and square. The bowl bears on its concave surface the imprint of a rose.

**Early County Commissioners**

The RECORD has already published a list of the County Commissioners from 1794 down to the present, but the records in the court house are incomplete as to the Commissioners who served from the erection of Luzerne County in 1787 down to 1794. We would be glad to have the missing data furnished. Hon. Steuben Jenkins hands the RECORD an order which furnishes the information as to 1792. It is as follows:

"Pay James Westbrook or bearer four shillings out of the County Treasury.

JNO. HAGERMAN,

J. HOLLERBACK,

Commissioners.

Luzerne County, Sept. 6, 1792.

To Abel Yarrington, C. Treasurer."

**Freight Charges 70 Years Ago.**

A magazine published in Philadelphia in 1818 gave the following as an item of news: "In the course of the twelve months of 1817, 12,000 wagons passed the Alleghany Mountains from Philadelphia and Baltimore, each with from four to six horses, carrying from thirty-five to forty hundred weight. The cost of carriage was about \$7 per hundred weight, in some cases as high as \$10 to Philadelphia. The aggregate sum paid for the conveyance of goods exceeded \$1,500,000." To move a ton of freight between Pittsburg and Philadelphia, therefore, cost no less than \$140, and took probably no less than two weeks' time. In 1886 the average amount received by the Pennsylvania RR. for the carriage of freight was three quarters of 1 per cent. a ton per mile. The distance from Philadelphia to Pittsburg is 286 miles, so that the ton which cost \$140 in 1817 was carried in 1886 for \$2.27. At the former time the workingman in Philadelphia had to pay \$14 for moving a barrel of flour from Pittsburg, against 28 cents now. The Pittsburg consumer paid \$7 freight upon every 100 pounds of dry goods brought from Philadelphia, which 100 pounds is now hauled in two days at a cost of 14 cents.

**Belbend's Oldest Resident.**

John Cramer has reached the advanced age of 109 years, the oldest person in the county. Mr. Cramer is a native of Berks County, where he lived for a number of years, then removed to Sunbury and lived there several years, and from there to Bloomsburg, where he lived from 30 to 40 years, and removed to where he now lives with his daughter, Mrs. Catharine, wife of John Cooper. Mr. Cramer married when he was 23 years of age, and lost his wife about 65 years later. They had 11 children, five of whom are living: Elizabeth, wife of Dan Conrad, of Berks County, Michigan; Andrew Cramer, Briar Creek, Columbia County; Lydia, wife of Jackson Carns, Bloomsburg; Susannah, wife of Thomas McGill, Nanticoke; and Robert Cramer, whereabouts not known to the family. Mr. Cramer, though 109 years of age, is very strong and active, able to do considerable work on the farm and about the house. He has husked considerable corn this fall. His health is as good as it ever was, except that he feels a little weakness in his lower limbs. He has lived to see the fourth generation of his children. Mr. Cramer fought in the war of 1812. He is quite a reader, and reads without the aid of spectacles. He can also shave himself, his hands being about as steady as they ever were.

**Brady, the Indian Fighter.**

Col. J. F. Meginness (John of Lancaster) has an article in the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin* descriptive of Halls, or Hartly Hall, a historic little hamlet at the junction of the Williamsport & North Branch RR, with the Reading, about nine miles east of Williamsport. In the course of it he says:

A chain of hills, partly wooded and cultivated, bounds the northern view, while the river silently rolls along the base of Bald Eagle mountain on the south. More than a hundred years ago a stockade fort was erected near here by the early settlers, for their protection against the Indians. Scarcely a trace of it is visible to-day, and its site can barely be pointed out. An Indian mound of considerable size was found here by the early adventurers. It contained the remains of red men, who had been buried with their rude paraphernalia around them. Many Indian relics have been taken from this mound by explorers, but it has almost been obliterated by the plowshare and the corroding tooth of time.

On the hillside a few hundred yards east of the railroad junction, is noticed a neat little cemetery. How many of those who gaze at it from the car windows, as they are hurriedly swept along, realize for a moment that it is one of the oldest burial places in the county? Not one in a hundred. And how many, too, are aware that within the enclosure repose the ashes of the brave Capt. John Brady, who was shot by an Indian lying in ambush, near Wolf Run, on the 11th of April, 1779. The highway between Muncy and Williamsport runs by the cemetery, and looking over the picket fence you can see Brady's grave, for it is marked by a plain, heavy tombstone of granite. Wolf Run, where he was shot by the lurking foe, is only about two miles to the east, and the spot in the highway where he fell is still pointed out. At the end of a century a neat shaft was reared in the cemetery at Muncy to keep his memory green in the hearts of the people. But his ashes repose in the old graveyard at Halls. His tombstone bears this simple inscription:

CAPTAIN JOHN BRADY.  
Fell in Defense of our Fore-fathers  
At Wolf Run, April 11, 1779,  
Aged 46 years.

By his side lie the remains of his faithful friend, Henry Lebo, who, after the location of the hero's grave had been lost, pointed it out and requested, when he departed, to be laid alongside of the man whom he loved

and honored in his early life. The inscription on his headstone reads:

In  
Memory of  
HENRY LEBO,  
Died July 4, 1823,  
In the 70th year of His Age.

**Two Early Wilkes-Barre Clerks.**

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Nov. 23, 1887.—  
EDITOR RECORD: In the RECORD of a recent date you have an article on the early history of Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, in which is named the late George M. Hollenback as occupying the three-story brick building on the southwest corner of River and Market Streets. I remember well the unpretending sign of Matthias Hollenback over the door on the Market Street side. The date of that was, I think, 1820. You name also some of the most prominent of the many clerks in his employ, and they are pleasantly remembered by his numerous customers of those times, but you have omitted to mention the name of one of his most faithful and favorite clerks, one who served him well and faithfully. It was Samuel T. Nicholson. He was always genial, accommodating and reliable, and it is pleasant to refer to his memory. I have in my mind another one of his quite popular clerks of that time, who was very generally known in that region, viz., Ziba Smith, a near relative of Mr. Draper Smith, of Plymouth, and who afterwards was employed by my grandfather Tuttle and his son, to take charge of their general store, which they had established at Tunkhannock, and where he continued to act for them some two or three years, more or less. Here let me remark, about that time, say 1823, my brother Payne entered into their employ as errand boy of all work, drawing molasses, measuring tape, calicoes, etc., remaining in that establishment till in the autumn of 1831, when he was called upon by the late William Swetland, Esq., to come with him as general clerk, bookkeeper, etc., etc., where he remained many years, and up to the death of Mr. Swetland, having married his daughter some years previous. In recurring to the past history of Wyoming Valley, my mind is filled with both pleasant and unpleasant events of my life during three quarters of a century. As my brother has continued to reside there, I have always kept it in memory as my home, and felt a lively interest in all passing events in the vicinity, and of the development of its great wealth.

S. PATTENOME.

The *Honedale Independent* of Nov. 24, 1887, contained an interesting article on "Pennsylvania and Delaware, closely allied in their early history," by R. M. Stocker.



## THE SHYLOCK OF HISTORY.

**Rev. Dr. Rundbaken Shows That it was not a Jew Who Demanded the Pound of Flesh, but That a Jew was the Victim—Shylock's Life Saved by Pope Sextus the Fifth.**

The announcement that Rev. Dr. V. Rundbaken, of the Temple Bnai Brith, would lecture on Sunday, Dec. 4, on "Shylock, the historical frame of the phantom of fiction," served to draw a large audience to the handsome new hall of the Young Men's Hebrew Association. In fact the capacious interior was taxed to hold all who came.

A few minutes after 8 o'clock an orchestra under the direction of Mr. Sam Oppenheim struck up, the speaker at the same moment taking his place on the platform. Occupying chairs to his right and left were Louis Long, Leo Long and Dr. Charles Long, officers of the Y. M. H. A.

Dr. Rundbaken wore full evening dress and a red rose was upon his lapel. A modest diamond glittered a few inches below his white tie. The lecture proved of singular interest, and its only drawback was the occasional dropping of the speaker's voice to a degree which made some of his sentences almost inaudible. This was the first time the new hall was put to the test of its acoustic qualities and therefore Dr. Rundbaken was at something of a disadvantage.

Appended is a condensation of the address:

The speaker stated that he attended a presentation of the "Merchant of Venice," which was for him a torture. The character of Shylock filled him with shame and indignation. It personified a demon with diabolic mastery. The Jew was pictured as the incarnation of disbelief in goodness, the embodiment of unplaceable revenge and sordid avarice; deaf to the pleading voice of mercy and kindness; heinous, harsh, vulgar, beastly; thirsting like a hyena for blood. What horrid phantom of revengefulness has Shakespeare conjured out of the depths of hell and mercilessly personified in the Jew, as a prototype of the whole tribe of Judah.

Here the speaker quoted Shylock's language concerning his demand for the pound of flesh as given by Shakespeare. After I witnessed the play, continued Dr. Rundbaken, the horrid phantom haunted me for days, weeks, months. Again and again I asked, is such monstrosity, possible or probable in a race which has given to mankind bible, seers, prophets, a Savior and apostles.

The pages of Jewish history never held out to gaze of mortals such a spectre of revengefulness. In contact with Gentiles, the Jew, even when wronged, never retaliated with defiance or revenge, but contented himself with defense, always longing for conciliation and sympathy. The Jew, especially in former times, regulated all his doings by the precepts of the old testament. They were not to bear any grudge but the Jew should love his neighbor as himself. A Jew who would demand a pound of flesh would have been excommunicated. The Hebrew law taught the reverse: "Take no usury; if thy neighbor becomes poor uphold him. There are numberless injunctions in the Talmud to Israel to be kind, loving, merciful to the gentiles, who, too, are called children of our heavenly Father. And to the Jew of Venice as well as of Palestine, these were law. It is admissible that a revengeful disposition will be met with in all races and peoples, but seldom will it assume demon-like form of a Shylock so unnatural, inhuman and savage. But then it is pointed out as exceptional, it is the individual which is branded with shame. Not so, alas, is the drift of vulgar opinion as to Shylock. Prejudice, bigotry, fanaticism, never stop to see in Shylock, the individual, who, possessed with demon of revenge, is an exception, anomaly, monstrosity, but rather a representative of a whole tribe, in which the milk of human kindness is turned to malignant poison.

Judaism will never submit to such a conception and we must brand as a travesty Shakespeare's monstrous creation of Shylock. Shakespeare willingly wronged our people. He sacrificed truthful tradition to the greedy appetite of current prejudice. The plot of the "Merchant of Venice" he took from an Italian novella, which reports that it was the Gentile who lent the money and insisted upon the pound of flesh and that the Jew was the victim. Cumberland, Leasing, Niebuhr, prove that Shakespeare interchanged the roles in the novella in order to please the multitude. The novella, which Niebuhr refers to, and after him Raumer, Miss Edgeworth and others, is quite interesting, because it gives a vivid description, not only of the innocence of Shylock, but also of the justice, piety and righteousness of Pope Sextus the Fifth.

At this point Dr. Rundbaken interjected an outline of the story claimed by the novella, (which antedated the Merchant of Venice) to be authentic. Pope Sextus V, head of the Church from 1585 to 1590, was one of the most remarkable occupants of the Roman See. His pontificate was a most active and energetic one, marked by vigorous measures of improvements in every depart-

ment of administration, ecclesiastical as well as civil. Unlike his predecessors he tolerated Jews in Rome. A Jew was his faithful counsellor in finances and Jews were given greatly enlarged privileges. According to the novella he was wont to go disguised as a beggar through the streets of Rome in search of information. While on such a round he learned that Shylock, a Hebrew, was to be flayed alive as forfeit for non payment of a debt to Baron Antonio Zavela. The latter suddenly demanded pay, and unable to comply Shylock sealed a bond of flesh, deeming it not a serious matter. Zavela's motive in loaning money to Shylock was to gain possession of the Jew's beautiful daughter, Jessica. He would cancel the bond if only Jessica would listen to his shameful demands. But neither father nor daughter would purchase their freedom at a price of sin. The day of execution arrived, the executioner was about to lift the fatal knife, when a messenger from Pope Sextus unexpectedly arrived and requested Antonio to desist from the right which the Roman law gave him and show mercy to the Jew. The language of the novella is highly sensational. Finally the Pope and his cardinals put in an appearance. The Pope faces Antonio and cries that the Jew is innocent. "Thou cravest, not because he failed to pay the money but because he refused to settle his debt with the shame and disgrace of his daughter. Thou art doubly guilty for thou, a Christian, hast attempted to seduce a Hebrew maiden, the penalty of which is death."

This, then, said Dr. Rundbaken, is the phantom of fiction. Shakespeare has perverted the traditional legend; he interchanged the roles and provided the hydra of of prejudice with ample to feed on in all coming generations. The phantom of Shylock will remain forever a dark spot in the brightness of Shakespeare's genius. The rascality of Shakespeare's Shylock has nothing in common with the Jew, nor the depravity of Antonio Zavela with the Christian. Rogues and knaves are undenominational—they stand outside the pale of any religion. Neither Zavela nor the Shylock of Shakespeare can be looked upon as reflecting discredit on the race or the people they belonged to by reason or chance of birth or nativity. The so-called Christian appealed to heathen law, human law; whereas the true Christian, Pope Sextus V, appealed to a higher tribunal, to divine law, to the law of justice and mercy, thus faithfully carrying out his mission on earth as the spirit of his master, the inspired teacher of Nazareth, who with Hillel and Moses preached the sublimest religious truth.

"Love thy neighbor as thyself."

#### WEDDED FOR SIXTY YEARS.

Mr. and Mrs. Dilton Yarrington Receive the Congratulations of a Host of Friends.

[Carbondale Leader, Dec. 24, 1887.]

Sixty years ago this month there appeared in the Towanda papers a notice of which the following is presumed to be a copy:

MARRIED.—In Wyalusing, at the residence of the bride's parents, on the 28rd inst., by the Rev. George Bibbins, Dilton Yarrington, of Dundaff, and Miss Rebecca Lambert, of the former place.

At that time Dundaff was the principal town in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Mr. Yarrington had migrated thither from Wilkes-Barre two years prior to his marriage. The settlement of Carbondale had just commenced, and the country surrounding it, except an occasional clearing down the valley, was an unbroken and forbidding wilderness. A solitary log house, with a small frame extension, sheltered the first family, the head of which had come to begin the work of developing the rich deposits of mineral wealth.

Mr. Yarrington was a sturdy blacksmith, well skilled in the art of making edged tools, and it is his boast that his strong right arm fashioned many of the tools which were used in the construction of the primitive railroad over which the black diamonds were transported to Honesdale, and thence by canal to the Hudson River. They were rude instruments, indeed, but they did the work for which they were designed, and were no slight contribution to the foundation which was then laid for our present prosperity.

Ten years ago this now venerable couple celebrated their golden wedding. Friends from far and near visited the "mansion on the hill" to extend their congratulations. There was a large number of them, and the presents were numerous and valuable. Few couples are privileged to enjoy even such an occasion, but yesterday, there was added to the cup of joy of the aged pair, the rare privilege of celebrating their diamond wedding. Friends were invited to join in the celebration, and accordingly the house was well filled with guests, and we venture to say that no similar occasion ever passed off with more propriety and real pleasure. Many who were prevented from attending by pressing business engagements and other causes, sent their regrets and assurances of kind wishes. Limited space will not permit us to say all that we desire of the happy occasion. Suffice it now to say that the event was a new testimonial to the respect and esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Yarrington are held in this community, and wherever they are known.

## EARLY METHODISM.

**Its Planting on the North Branch of the Susquehanna a Century Ago—Curious Instance of the Intolerance of That Time.**

In the *Historical Journal* (Williamsport) for December is an article by O. F. Hill, of Hazleton, on "Early Methodism on the North Branch of the Susquehanna." An account is given of the old church at Briar Creek, in Columbia County, erected in 1803, still standing. Near by is an old farm house, which was the home of Thomas Bowman, who with his brother, Christian, emigrated from Northampton County and settled in the wilderness of Columbia County in 1792. The upper story of the farm house was used as a place of worship and here occurred in 1805 a great revival of religion. The two Bowman brothers were local preachers and were ordained by Bishop Asbury at a camp meeting near Kingston, in the Wyoming Valley. They were lay evangelists of great fortitude and zeal. About this time revival influences were felt at Salem, Berwick, Huntington, Nantcoke, Fishing Creek, Gearharts, Sunbury and Northumberland.

In the article mention is made of Anning Owen, a blacksmith, one of the survivors of the massacre of Wyoming. While fleeing from the scene of bloodshed he became converted and afterwards upon his return from Connecticut, developed into an enthusiastic and successful class leader. His flock was known as the "Rose Hill Class," near Kingston, the first organization of a Methodist complexion in Wyoming Valley. Mr. Owen gradually extended his labors up and down the river, he or his followers establishing classes wherever they went.

The article in question is mainly devoted to the spread of Methodism down the Susquehanna to Northumberland. The article closes with the following letter, which exhibits the intolerance with which Methodism was received a century ago, a denomination now one of the most influential in Christendom:

"DEAR SIR: Having not the least acquaintance with Mr. Reed, I hope the sending of this letter may be no offence; I'm at present uneasy, understanding that a gentleman in Lancaster County known by the name of Joseph Miller, Esqr., intends to get Mr. Reed to break or take my commission which I have the honor to hold (viz. that of Magistrate) for no other reason than a Methodist preacher at my house one evening, and two other times I went to hear them, meaning no harm. But Squire Miller allows the Methodists to be torify'd. Having heard that such people as the Methodists preached in the city of Philadelphia without

any opposition, and being well informed by a Rev. clergyman, that they had done a great deal of good among many wicked people, and having recourse to our bill of Rights tolerating a liberty of conscience as was always heretofore obtained in said State of Pennsylvania I referred Squire Miller to the bill of Rights, though he says it was Benj. Franklin and two or three other Deists that obtained that liberty, in spite of said Miller and some others of the convention, I told the squire it was liberty I thought proceeded from a christain love; by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye love one another. Squire Miller has sent all the Methodist preachers he can catch to Lancaster goal; whether or not them people deserved such treatment God only knows. It is reported by the society that Squire Miller adhere to (called seceders) that the Methodists has been recruiting men for the British service if that is really so, I shall not justify any people of that stamp, for my own part, besides many others, thought them able preachers; and seen not the least sign of recruiting men for the British service, only recruiting volunteers for the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, was their devoted study, and care to my view. Dear Sir, I shall conclude with the words of the great apostle Paul 25, C. Acta, 18, v. To whom I answered it is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die; before that he which is accused have the accuser face to face. Self praise is no commendation, but as for whigism I am now what I ever was since this present contest commenced, I have marched out before and since the Law obliged; and on every call I either went or sent, I make no doubt, sir, but it may be told you that I'm torify'd, but it is very likely them or theirs that utter such news if any such be laid to my charge—lived in Philadelphia that campaign and not a man belonging to his company at Trenton the day of the cannonade where I myself was present and in said company a man killed and the hand shot off one other man, this is the solid truth, can be proven by many people.

I am thy assured Friend,

R. SMITH.

Chester County, Oxford Township, February 24, 1781.

## Early American Graduates at Edinburgh.

In the October number of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Rev. H. E. Hayden, of Wilkes-Barre, gives a list of the American graduates in medicine at the University at Edinburgh, prior to 1800. It is of special value from the fact that of the catalogue from which it is copied there is only one known copy in the United States. The records of those from Virginia will be given in Mr. Hayden's

forthcoming volume of "Virginia Genealogies." The list gives date of graduation and subject of thesis.

#### EARLY WYOMING MILITIA.

An Older List of Capt. Franklin's Company of Militia in Wyoming than the One Lately Published in the Record—Copied from the Diary of Christopher Hurlbut, or Memorandum Book, With no Date.

"Roll of the first company in the 5th Regiment of Militia in the State of Connecticut under the command of Captain John Franklin:

John Franklin, captain.  
Roswell Franklin and Daniel Gore, lieutenants.

William Hibbard, sergeant.  
Benjamin Baley and William Jackson, corporals.

Asa Bennett,	Josiah Pell,
Isaac Bennett,	William Ross,
Ishmael Bennett, Jr.,	Elisha Sill,
Oliver Bennett,	Frederick Sanford,
David Brown,	William Smith, Jr.,
John Carey,	John Spalding,
Nathan Carey,	William Slocum,
Joseph Elliot,	James Sutton,
John Fuller,	Jiles Slocum,
Henry Harding,	Abel Yarrington."

Then in *very black ink*, Elisha Sill and Frederick Sanford, are crossed out, and in their places are written:

"Jabesh Sill, Jun'r, and Frederick Fry," and then in the *same black ink*, at the end of the list:

"Benjamin Carey,	Reuben Harrington,
Avery Gore,	Clement West,
Thomas Joslin,	Preserved Cooley."
Nathan Wade.	

Now after this the name of William Hibbard, sergt., the only sergeant on the list at that time, is crossed out, and then there are written, again in different colored ink, after the names of lieutenants Roswell Franklin and Daniel Gore, the names as follows: "Nathan Kingsley, (Lieut.)

John Hageman, ensign.  
Daniel Ingersoll, sergeant.  
William Hibbard, sergeant.  
William Jackson, sergeant.  
John Hurlbut, sergeant.  
Benjamin Baley, corporal.  
Joseph Elliot, corporal.  
Henry Harding."

The new names here entered and the change of place of others seem to indicate a reorganization, as all these names (not crossed out and not including Thomas Joslin and William Slocum) appear in the roll published in the Record some weeks ago, together with 23 additional ones. This increase of numbers is due probably to the re-

turn of many of the inhabitants in the fall of 1778 and spring of 1780, after the successful expedition of Gen. Sullivan into the Indian country, believing they might return then with safety.

Mr. Miner says p. 284: "July 26, 1780, there were twenty-nine on the roll. At Hanover to guard a mill, one lieutenant, one sergeant and ten privates. At Kingston, one sergeant and fourteen men; and two on the sick list."

The only mill in Hanover was burnt in 1778. I cannot make these names agree with twenty-nine in any combination of the older or newer names. There were one captain, three lieutenants, an ensign, four sergeants and four corporals in the later organization; but in the older there were only one captain, two lieutenants, one sergeant and two corporals. Take all these in the older organization, including the captain, and there are only twenty-six.

H. B. PLUMB.

#### Interested in Wyoming Valley History.

The following note accompanies a subscription for the *Historical Record*, the first volume of which is now complete and can be had at this office:

"I have given such examination to volume one as my time would permit, and have been so well entertained and instructed thereby that I renew my order for volume two.

You may perhaps better understand my interest in your local history from the fact that one of my ancestors (Samuel Tubbs,) was a soldier in Capt. Robert Durkee's Independent Company, and another (Lt. Col. George Dorrance,) was killed in the famous massacre of July 3, 1778. My great-grandmother was one of the fugitives that fled through the "Shades of Death" back to Connecticut.

Then again this valley of the Cowanesque has quite a modicum of all Connecticut-Wyoming families. Of those who fought in the Indian battle, we have here our descendants of the Jenkins, Hammonds, Athertons and Ives families.

Of Yankees in your land wars, we have Cooks, Ryons and Hurlbuts; of Pennamites, Taylors and Courtrights.

Of the families who came to you after that, and war was over, we have among us Barkers by the score, and Hoyts who bear such given names as Lyman Pierce, Chester Butler and Isaac Gunn.

Cherishing the memories of former times, and surrounded by neighbors bearing such names, is it strange that I care to peruse your *Historical Record*?

Very respectfully,  
CHARLES TUBBS."

Osoeola, Tioga Co., Pa.

### FAR FROM HIS FEET.

**He Got There with Both Feet, but Cut Them Off Himself and They Are Now in Alcohol Pickle in Wilkes-Barre.**

John W. January, of Minonk, Ill., wants an increased pension, and his application gives one of the most remarkable cases in the annals of surgery. He is 40 years old, and in the fall of 1862 joined the Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, being captured in Stoneman's raid in July, 1864. He was kept in Andersonville for awhile, and then removed to Charleston, S. C., where about Feb. 15, 1865, he was stricken with swamp fever. He proceeds:

"I soon learned from the surgeon, after a hasty examination, that I was a victim of scurvy and gangrene, and was moved to the gangrene hospital. My feet and ankles above the joints presented a livid, lifeless appearance, and the flesh began to slough off, and the surgeon, with a brutal oath, said I would soon die. But I was determined to live and begged him to cut my feet off, telling him if he would that I could live. He still refused, and believing that my life depended upon the removal of my feet I secured an old pocket-knife (I have it now in my possession) and cutting through the decaying flesh and severing the tendons the feet were soon unjointed, leaving the bones protruding without a covering of flesh for five inches. (See picture taken three months after released.) At the close of the war I was taken by the Reds to our lines at Wilmington, N. C., in April, 1865, and when weighed learned that I had been reduced from 165 pounds (my weight when captured) to forty five pounds.

"Every one of the Union surgeons who saw me then said I could not live, but, contrary to this belief, I did and improved. Six weeks after being released, while on a boat en route to New York, the bones of my right limb broke off at the ends of the flesh. Six weeks later while in the hospital on David's Island, those of my left had become necrosed and broke off similarly. One year after my release I was just able to sit up and was discharged. Twelve years after my release my limbs had healed over, and strange to relate no amputation had ever been performed upon them save the one I performed in person. There is no record of any case in the world similar to mine. My family consists of my aged parents, my wife, three sons and three daughters.

Dr. W. H. Bradley, a former proprietor of the Record, now associated with the Press, writes a letter to a Wilkes-Barre friend which we are permitted to copy. The recipient, however, who is a survivor of Ander-

sonville himself, and had peculiar facilities for learning the facts, says Mr. January misrepresents the Andersonville surgeon, as they were gentlemen through and through and not capable of the cruelty mentioned by Mr. January. Dr. Bradley's letter is as follows:

Enclosed please find slip clipped from last Saturday's edition of the Press.

During the war, in March, 1865, I had charge of a hospital in Wilmington, N. C., which was filled with prisoners released from Andersonville by Sherman's troops on his famous march to the sea.

Among the number was John W. January, whom I believe to be the man named in this dispatch. If so he is in error about his having cut them off while in prison, as he cut them off while under my charge, and I preserved them in alcohol. I carried them around with me for years and finally placed them in the Historical Society at Wilkes-Barre. I put a label on the jar containing them simply for memory, and think I made a mistake about his regiment, as my impression now is that I credited him to the 5th Mich. Cavalry instead of the 14th Ill. Cavalry. I think it of sufficient interest to have this record corrected, and you can do so through the secretary of the Historical Society by showing him this letter.

I have written to January to get a confirmation of these facts, but I have no doubt whatever of their substantial correctness.

It is altogether an exceedingly interesting circumstance to me. The boy should have been dead twenty years ago by all professional reasoning. W. H. BRADLEY.

Inquiry at the rooms of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society reveals the fact that the jar referred to is there, labeled as follows:

"Interesting relic of the war—These feet belong to John January, of the 5th Michigan Cavalry. He was taken prisoner and confined in Andersonville, where on account of exposure, bad food and ill treatment he, with hundreds more, contracted dry gangrene, and both feet rotted off. He was liberated by Sherman's Army on its famous march to the sea, and taken to Wilmington, N. C., where his limbs were amputated, he restored to health and sent north. He was afterwards one of the principal witnesses against Wirz, the keeper of Andersonville Prison, who was hung for his inhuman treatment. Presented by Dr. W. H. Bradley."

#### Four Generations at Table.

A family reunion took place at J. W. Leyson's, 50 Union Street, on Monday, Dec. 28. There were four generations at the table at one time: Mrs. Mary Woodworth, great-grandmother; Mrs. J. W. Leyson, grandmother; Mrs. J. B. Shearn, mother;

Theta S. and H. Garfield Shearn, great-grandchildren and grandchildren. All had a very good time, exchanging greetings. To add to the pleasant meeting Miss Lizzie Parry James and Mrs. Prof. David Miles were present.

#### GROWTH OF WILKES-BARRE.

As Shown by the Postoffice Statistics—  
Receipts of the Office Over \$31,000  
in a Single Year—The Carriers Handle  
Nearly 4,000,000 Pieces of Mail.

No more forcible evidence of the rapid growth of Wilkes-Barre can be had than from the statistics of the postoffice for 1887 and previous years. Since the free delivery system has obtained in Wilkes-Barre the amount of matter handled each year by the carriers has been as follows:

1883	1,192,136 pieces
1884	1,420,443 "
1885	1,754,594 "
1886	2,576,848 "
1887	3,648,508 "

In 1887 the sales from stamps at the Wilkes-Barre office was \$31,224, which with box rent, yielded an income of \$31,875. The expenses were \$16,245, thus netting the P. O. Department \$15,629. The expenses were thus distributed: Salaries of employes \$3,550, rent, light and heat \$1,280, special delivery messenger \$34.64, incidental expenses \$20.75, salaries of letter carriers \$7,785.78, incidental expenses for free delivery system \$407.23, envelopes redeemed and due stamps attached to matter sent to dead letter office \$57.18.

The office issued money orders to the amount of \$92,547 and paid orders to the amount of about \$75,000.

Of registered letters 5,283 were delivered in Wilkes-Barre and 5,455 were sent away from Wilkes-Barre, besides which 6,763 registered packages were received in transit.

The special delivery system has not been in large demand. Of such letters 936 came to Wilkes-Barre and 859 were sent from here. The special messenger who delivered these became wealthy to the extent of \$34.64.

During the year 3,480 letters were advertised as being uncalled for. Of these about 2,000 finally went to the dead letter office. The advantage of having the envelope indicate the sender is shown by the fact that nearly 5,000 letters and packages were returned to the senders where address was indicated.

The variety of stamps and envelopes sold is thus shown:

117,489	One cent stamps	\$ 1,174 89
925,306	Two cent stamps	18,506 18
12,478	Four cent stamps	449 12
83,543	Five cent stamps	1,677 15
10,089	Ten cent stamps	1,008 90

492	Fifteen cent stamps	78 80
108	Thirty cent stamps	32 40
	Newspaper and periodical stamps	321 25
	Postage due stamps	256 01
1,247	Special delivery stamps	124 70
289,011	Postal cards, 1 cent	2,390 11
208	Postal cards, 2 cent	4 16
229,311	Stamped envelopes	4,871 84
18,522	Newspaper wrappers	209 56
3,234	Letter sheet envelopes	74 89

Total \$31,224 40

The appended figures show the amount of work done by the letter carriers.

Carriers employed	12
Delivery trips daily	84
Collection trips daily	37
Registered letters delivered	2,708
Letters delivered	1,218,851
Postal cards delivered	269,613
Newspapers, circulars and printed matter delivered	940,815
Local letters collected	133,173
Mail letters collected	770 078
Local postal cards collected	68,673
Mail postal cards collected	152,964
Newspapers, circulars and printed matter collected	89,788

Total number of pieces handled during year 3,646,508

#### How Wilkes-Barre is Spelled.

A Philadelphia gentleman writes as follows:

"EDITOR RECORD: Will you be good enough to inform me by the enclosed postal card where I can find an authoritative statement as to the correct wording of Wilkes-Barre. I have frequently to write the word and desire to know which of the numerous ways of writing it is correct.

1. Should it be written *WilkesBarre*—the Barre with a capital and no space or

2. Should it be written *Wilkes Barre*, with a capital B and a space or

3. Should it be written *Wilkesbarre* with no space and a small b or

4. Should it be written *Wilkes Barre*, with a large B and hyphen or

How should it be written?"

Reply. There is perhaps no authority on the subject except as custom establishes it. Query No. 4 covers the way the name is spelled locally, though No. 3 query covers the spelling of the name when it appears in the metropolitan journals. There are some people in Wilkes-Barre who spell the name *Wilkesbarre*—in fact it seems to have been customary in the early part of the century.

The reason it is spelled with *Wilkes* and *Barre* both capitalized is that the city derived its name from two distinguished members of the British Parliament, *Wilkes* and *Barre*, who were friendly to the struggling colonies in America.

## INDIAN RELICS FOUND.

Plaster of Paris Moulds and Images Found Along the Nescopeck Creek—Relics of the Catholic Indians and of the French and Indian War.

[Hasleton Sentinel, Jan. 10.]

We were yesterday shown at the office of C. F. Hull some Indian relics sent him by A. P. Goedecke, of Drum's postoffice, in Butler Township. The relics consist of a number of plaster of Paris moulds, made for the purpose of moulding images of the crucifix and of the Virgin Mary, etc. A number of years ago Charles W. Goedecke, son of A. P. Goedecke, and Stephen Shellhammer, while engaged in tracing a north and south line on the Matthew Conrad tract in Denison Township, on the North side of the Nescopeck Creek near a living sand spring, noticed a spot which had been used as a camping place. A pile of stones indicated a fire place, near which they found some broken arrows. In prosecuting their search further they found the plaster of Paris moulds and images imbedded in the sand. Charles W. Goedecke, one of the finders, was killed by lightning in West Virginia, and his father has made several unsuccessful attempts to find the spot. It is, however, near the trail made by General Oleswie and his command on their expedition to the relief of Wyoming, and also near the warrior's path, as will be seen by reference to the warrantee map of Luzerne County, near the boundary lines betwixt Butler and Denison Townships. There can be no doubt but these are relics of Catholic Indians and most likely of the French and Indian war of the year 1755 and later. It is well-known that the French Indians made King Nutimus' town at Nescopeck their rendezvous, and these relics may have belonged to them. Captain George Oronson, in his journal under date July 18th, 1757, says that the French have gone so far as to bribe a party of Ottowas to watch the road Tedyuseug came down on his way to the treaty at Easton, with a view to killing them and preventing the success of the treaty. The Ottowas were French Indians, and as this was so near the route of Tedyuseug may have belonged to them. At best it is a question for our local historians to settle.

## A New Publication on Genealogy.

A petite magazine called *The Genealogist* comes to the Record from Washington, D. C., and is devoted principally, though not entirely, to the Collamer family. There is an interesting explanation of Old Style and New Style, an article telling a good method for preparing genealogical blanks, an article on old epitaphs from a genealogical stand-

point, and many interesting notes and queries. The editor wants the parentage of A. E. Collamer, of Wilkes-Barre, and it is therefore in order for the Bicycle Club photographer to put himself in communication. *The Genealogist* is issued monthly, at 50 cents a year, and is published by N. L. Collamer, 2406 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

## Medicine Half a Century Ago.

On the occasion of the third annual banquet of the Lackawanna County Medical Society, held in Scranton, Dec. 18, 1887, the *Republican* thus reported Dr. Throop:

Dr. B. H. Throop was received with cheers when he stood up to respond to the toast, "Half a Century of Medicine." Dr. Throop said fifty years did not cover the number of years he had spent in the profession of medicine. "It is fifty-five years since I entered the profession," said the doctor. "I do not think I could practice medicine now and compete with the young men I see around the table to-night. We did a great many things in those days that we do not do now. I believe that when the physician laid down the lancet for other things, he abandoned the most potent remedy known. Fifty years ago physicians had to deal mainly with inflammatory diseases. During the first years of my practice in this valley, nine cases out of ten to which I was called were cases of pleurisy." Dr. Throop then spoke of his early experience, stating he traveled over a circuit of fifty miles for a number of years "If it hadn't been for trading horses," he said, "I would not have had money enough to get along; but the man who got ahead of me in a horse trade had to be pretty clever. I was frequently sued by Dr. Sweet, of Carbondale, from whom I bought my medicine, but I never blamed him, as there was no money in the country in 1837—that is in this part of the country—except what was issued by the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co. and everybody had to go to Carbondale for Delaware & Hudson "shin-plasters." All of the physicians who were then active in this section of the State are now dead excepting Dr. Bedford, of Waverly." He said that in those days he had no one to go to for counsel as physicians now-a-days have. He cited one case where he amputated both feet of a man with a handsaw. The feet had been frozen as far up as the ankle, but the man had good pluck and the handsaw was the only instrument he had at hand. "It was not a very handsome surgical job," said the doctor, "but I never performed an operation that was more satisfactory or that healed quicker or better."

### Pennsylvania Schools.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania, just issued by Superintendent Higbee, is a most interesting one, showing what has been done during the past year by our public schools. A few figures taken from the statistical tables will show what progress the cause of education is making in our State:

During the past year 15 new school districts have been formed, making a total of 2,281; there has also been an increase in the number of schools—379—which swells the total number to 21,062; of this total number 9,444 are graded schools, and as new schools were formed, of course more teachers were required, and the increase in the teaching force has been 519, 179 of whom were females. But while the schools have increased both in numbers and in efficiency, there has not been that proportionate increase in the salaries of teachers that is deserved. True, there has been a slight advance in the average monthly salary of male teachers, but there has also been a decrease in the average monthly salary of the female teachers. The average monthly salary of male teachers is only \$38 53, while that of the female teachers is but \$29 86. This is certainly very poor remuneration for very exacting labor.

The estimated value of school property in Luzerne County is \$1,013,381, which is \$289 080 in advance of Lackawanna. The number of permanent certificates granted in Luzerne County was 163. While this county takes high rank in the efficiency, number and wealth of her schools, yet she also reports the greatest number of children of school age not in school—2,453—double that of any other county; but she has also double the number of any other county attending private schools—3,590.

The following table shows how Luzerne County appears in this report:

Number of schools.....	595
Number of months taught.....	7.91
Number of teachers—males, . . . . .	98; females, . . . . .
450.....	648
Salary per month (average) males.....	\$48.83
Salary per month (average) females.....	\$33.18
Number of scholars.....	33,346
Average per cent. of attendance.....	87
Cost per pupil per month.....	\$ 89
Total amount of tax for building.....	\$350,974.04

Only three counties in the State show a larger average attendance; and but one county (Allegheny) that exceeds its total enrollment—leaving out Philadelphia County, of course.

There are many other interesting statistics. Out of Luzerne's nearly 600 schools, 275 use the bible. The average grade of certificates is 1 56, a slight fraction below

the general average throughout the State, which is 1.70. The average age of teachers in Luzerne County is 24 years. Forty-eight are inexperienced, 78 have taught more than five years, and 131 intend making teaching a permanent business. The annual school tax levy for Luzerne County is nearly \$351,000. The State appropriation to Luzerne is \$32,201, which swells the receipts for taxes, etc., to \$408 895. There was paid out for teachers' wages in a single year, \$211,820.

Some statistics are also given of other educational institutions than the common schools. The oldest is the University of Pennsylvania, founded in 1753, the Germantown Academy (1760), Nazareth Hall (1785), Philadelphia Episcopal Academy (1785); Franklin and Marshall College (1797), Langhorne Friends' Institute (1790) and Chambersburg Academy (1797). The wealthiest institution is Girard College, with an endowment fund of nearly \$11,000,000, the University of Pennsylvania following with \$1,285,000. No other institute has an endowment to exceed \$400,000.

### Carbonale Newspapers.

In an article on the newspapers of Carbonale the *Journal* of that city says:

The first newspaper published in Carbonale was the *Northern Pennsylvanian*, published by Amzi Wilson, who moved the establishment from Dundaff to Carbonale in 1831 or 1832. P. S. Joslin was one of his apprentices, and fared so hard that he ran away, and the paper contained an advertisement offering "One Cent Reward" for his recovery. Mr. Wilson published the paper here for about 5 years, and sold it to Wm. Bolton, who moved the establishment to Wilkes-Barre, the county seat, in 1840.

The *Carbonale Democrat* was started in 1845 by P. S. Joslin and S. S. Benedict. The latter became sole proprietor two years later, and soon after enlarged the paper and changed the name to *Lackawanna Citizen and Carbonale Democrat*, some time afterwards dropping the latter portion of the name. During Mr. Benedict's two terms in the Legislature 1851 and 1852, the office was in charge of P. K. Barger and M. H. Barber. Homer Grennell and P. K. Barger purchased the office in 1852. Mr. Barger soon after went to Wilkes-Barre to take charge of the *Luzerne Union*, just established by Mr. Benedict, and the *Citizen* was discontinued in 1854.

The *Lackawanna Journal* was established here in 1849, by Geo. M. Reynolds. DeWitt C. Kitchen was associated with him for a time in its publication. Mr. Reynolds published it until 1857, when he sold out to R. H. Willoughby, who changed the name to



the *Advance*. In the fall of that year he sold the establishment to Dr. Chas. Burr and Geo. M. Reynolds, who sold it to S. S. Benedict in April, 1868. Mr. Benedict remained its publisher until his death in 1883. Mrs. R. K. Benedict continued its publication until March, 1898, when it was sold to Mr. Lathrop, of the *Leader*, who is now its publisher.

The *Carbondale Leader* was established in 1873 by A. W. Cook, who published it for several years, and sold it to M. H. Barber, by whom it was sold to D. N. Lathrop, Jr.

#### ALMOST A CENTENARIAN.

**Death of a Wyoming Pioneer—His Own Graphic Description of the Privations of the First Quarter of the Present Century.**

Abram S. Honeywell died in Wyoming Dec. 5, 1887, at the home of his son, Samuel, at the advanced age of 97 years, two months and 27 days. The funeral took place at 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning from the house where he died, interment at Dallas. Death was due to the infirmities of advanced age, rather than to any particular disease.

Deceased was the son of William Honeywell, who moved from New Jersey about 1812 or 1813, and bought and settled on a portion of land, where the former's grandson, William Jefferson Honeywell, now lives and owns a beautiful farm, also part of the land now occupied for the fair ground of the Dallas Union Agricultural Association.

As showing some phases of the rigorous life which the pioneers were compelled to lead, we take pleasure in appending some extracts from the manuscript sheets of the History of Dallas, in course of preparation by William Penn Ryman, Esq., of the Luzerne Bar. The notes from which we quote were jotted down as related to him by Mr. Honeywell two years ago, at which time he gave his age as 95 years.

"I cannot give the exact year that we came in from New Jersey, but it was about 1812 or 1813, my father having been out the fall before and bought a large body of land. We came from Knollton Township. Many of the early settlers of Dallas Township come from there. Dallas Township had not yet been cut off from Kingston and Plymouth, from which it was taken. There were five families came in from New Jersey when we came. Widow Sweazy and her son Thomas, about my age, were in the party. We drove our teams and wagons all the way from New Jersey. From New Troy (now Wyoming) up through the narrows to our land there was no road at all and we had to cut our way through the whole distance. It took about five days. We had brought our cows and sheep and horses with us and it was

almost impossible to get them through the woods and across the streams. The water was very high and there were no bridges, so we had to ford. The forest was very dense and heavy, with many pines 150 to 200 feet high. There were only four or five houses in the territory of present Dallas Township at that time. The woods were full of game—bear, deer, wild turkey, etc. Wolves were very thick. Harvey's Lake was a grand place to hunt and fish then. You could kill a deer almost any time. Many of the old settlers who came in after we did moved away very soon because the country was so wild they could not stand it. It was very hard to make a living. There was no money going. The most difficult thing was to get roads constructed. This was accomplished by having 'bees.'

Soon after we came Dallas Township was set off, and the population began to increase. Most of the settlers were Jerseymen, though there were a few Yankees from Connecticut. Peter Ryman came in about 1814 from New Jersey. My father's brother, John Honeywell, came in the year before we did. Another brother, Richard, came in soon after. My brothers were Joseph, Thomas and Isaac. I had one sister, Elizabeth, who married Eleazer Swetland, brother of William Swetland, of Wyoming. John Orr came about the time we did. He was a blacksmith and sharpened plow shares, but would not shoe horses much."

#### A Luzerne County Farmer Dead.

Burton Courtright died at his home in Orange, Franklin Township, Luzerne Co., Jan. 11, aged nearly 74 years. He was born in Plains, March 15, 1814, and his father was Henry Courtright. He was married 50 years ago to Lucy Larned, of Wyoming. He had been a resident of Orange for 40 years. Of his four sons, Frank lives in Nantlook; Seymour—like his father—is a prosperous farmer in Orange; Evert resides in Wilkes-Barre, and Oscar is a farmer in New Jersey. Two daughters, Alice and Adelaide, live on the old homestead. Death was due to paralysis. A large circle of friends mourn his demise. Funeral on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 1 p. m., from his late home in Orange.

#### Death of Mrs. Streng.

Mrs. Streng, widow of the late George W. Streng, died Friday, Dec. 24, at her home, after a few months' illness, aged about 65 years. She survived her husband nearly seven years. She was a resident of Pittston for upwards of 20 years, and was always regarded as a faithful wife, a good and indulgent mother, and a generous friend.—*Pittston Gazette*.

**A VETERAN PHYSICIAN DEAD.**

**He Was About to Start a Sanitarium at Harvey's Lake and Had Bought the Lake Grove House.**

Dr. Frederick Fieschhut died suddenly at an early hour Friday, Jan. 13, at his residence, 45 Hasle Street. Death was due to apoplexy, deceased having never had any known bodily ailment whatever. The doctor was a native of France and was 70 years of age. He was a medical practitioner of 42 years' standing, having graduated from a university in his native land. He lived at Laporte, in this State, 30 years, afterwards removing to Towanda, Duabore and Wilmot, and finally to Wilkes-Barre a month ago. His coming to Wilkes-Barre was with the view of establishing a sanitarium at Harvey's Lake, for which purpose he had bought Rice's Lake Grove House property and was about to make extensive alterations and improvements in that hostelry. In fact he was to pay the lake a visit on Monday next with his children, Wm. Fieschhut and Mrs. Sweet, both of Dakota, who were here on a visit to their father. They had intended returning some days ago, but remained at the urgent solicitation of their father, to aid him in completing his arrangements. Mrs. Sweet's husband is the owner of the Wall Street gold mine at Lead City, Dakota, one of the richest mines in the United States. Mrs. Sweet herself located the mine which proved so valuable. Dr. Fieschhut was twice married and was the father of eight children by the first marriage and ten by the second, of whom thirteen are living and all are prosperous. One son, Charles, lives at Los Angeles, Cal. A daughter, Mrs. Crossley, lives at Laporte, and Mrs. Fred. Crater, of this city, is another. Andrew Crouse, of Wyoming, who had not seen Dr. Fieschhut for 40 years, came to Wilkes-Barre immediately upon hearing of his friend's death and called upon the family. Interment took place at Laporte.

**A Father of Bridge Men.**

Capt. Richard W. Pascoe, who died in South Easton on Dec. 3, left five sons, all but one of whom are engaged in the bridge work on the Lehigh Valley R.R. W. F., of South Easton, is superintendent of bridges; John H., of Allentown, is assistant bridge builder; Joseph W., of South Easton, superintendent of the iron bridge work; Archibald C., employed in the bridge department at South Easton. The father was born in Cornwall, England, nearly 64 years ago. Coming to America in 1843 he engaged in coal and other mining.

**Son of a Pioneer Dead.**

For the last dozen years persons passing out Northampton Street have been accustomed to see Daniel W. Bennett, a well-known blacksmith, sitting in front of his home at 102 Northampton Street. Mr. Bennett sustained paralysis of one side some 14 years ago, since which time he has been entirely incapacitated for work, being able, however, to make his way about the house or take short walks in the vicinity. For some months he has been entirely helpless and on Jan. 10 his death occurred. He was 67 years of age, having been born at the old homestead in Hanover Township, Sept. 7, 1820. He was by trade a blacksmith and for many years had a shop on the site now occupied by Engle's drug store at the corner of South Main and Northampton Streets. He subsequently removed his shop to the rear of the lot upon which his house now stands, and there continued the business until failing health compelled retirement. He had also been engaged in the lightning rod business, which is now pursued by his son, George. He was an old-time volunteer fireman, as a member of Protector No. 1. He is survived by a widow—who was Miss Emily Kite—and four sons, Winfield S., of Philadelphia; Benjamin F., and Charles F., of Sayre, and Geo. W., of Wilkes-Barre. Funeral Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Deceased came from one of the pioneer families of Wyoming Valley. He was the third in descent from Ishmael Bennett, a Rhode Islander who came to Wilkes-Barre in 1770, was a survivor of the 1778 massacre and afterwards married the widow of Philip Weeks, who was slain in the fight. Ishmael settled in Hanover Township in 1788. His son Thomas had preceded him, coming in 1769. Thomas was in the massacre, but escaped, though he was recaptured. He afterwards, with two companions, slew four out of their six captors and escaped.

Ishmael Bennett referred to had a son Nathan, who was father of deceased. Nathan married Ann Hoover and died in Wilkes-Barre in 1872 at the age of 84. Deceased had two brothers, Geo. W. Bennett, of Ashley, who died in 1884, and Stewart Bennett (father of Attorney Nathan Bennett), who died in 1885. Two sisters survive—Polly, wife of John A. Carey, and Sarah, wife of Charles Drake. Silas Bennett is a cousin of deceased.

**Death of a Veteran.**

John L. Riker, aged 45 years, living in Oregon, after a long illness died on Dec. 24. He was a member of a military company raised in Susquehanna County, and was attached to the 14th Regiment P. V. He was buried Monday under the auspices of Nugent Post, G. A. R.—*Pittston Gazette*.

## Local Death Roll for 1887.

January—James Gilligan, Mrs. James Dougherty, Mrs. J. C. Kaenfer, ex-Judge Charles T. Barnum, Miles Bowman McAlester, Mrs. Q. A. Gates, Miss Julia A. Beard, Mrs. Walter B. (Roberts) Posten, Albert McAlpine, Mrs. C. D. Linskill, Mrs. Esther Burdick, L. D. Harts, Isaac Tyler.

February—Postmaster Bogert, W. H. Treecott, Matthew Watt, Mrs. G. S. Chamberlin, Thomas Tamblin, Mrs. Elizabeth McNaughton, Mrs. Julius Weber, Samuel Fregans, Mrs. Lydia Woodward Hancock, Mrs. Jane Leavenworth McCulloch.

March—Silas Alexander, Mrs. Fanny Perrin Updegraff, Howard E. Ketcham, Peter McGourty, Charles Erath, Mrs. Lord Butler, Frank Beardslee, N. Baldes, Mrs. Hannah Ziegenfuss, Mary Gray Lathrop, Mrs. Wm. Haycock, Joseph Brown, John Valk, Christian Conrad, Mrs. Elizabeth Birkbeck.

April—James Buchman Shaver, Esq., Mrs. B. Talley, Mrs. Isaac Livingston, Philip Hilbert, Charles Sturdevant, Matilda Ann Adams, Isaac H. Teets, B. Frauenthal, Mrs. Osterhout.

May—Ethel Orr Wilson, Edward Enterline, Mrs. Ann Perry, Henry Chambers, John W. Levan, Dennis Mulhern, Rebecca Metzger Hooper, A. C. Tinsley, Henry Weiss, Mrs. Hugh McGroarty, Elias Robins, Miss Ellen Ciet Rutter, Harry Scheidel, Joseph Zoeller, Joseph Miltz, A. G. Hull and James Meighan.

June—Sidney Eicke, Owen P. Reynolds, "Aunt" Williams, Miss Maria Leach, Bishop Stevens, Mrs. Charles Bennet, James White and Rev. G. D. Stroud.

July—Mrs. J. Lewis Behes, Sister Rose (Mary McDade,) Mrs. Mary H. Ware, Mrs. F. Hirschfield, Mrs. Cornelia Butler, P. P. Copeland, W. Frank Richardson, Edith E. Bowman, Mrs. Nancy Nicholson Wright, John Schmitt, Mrs. Laura Downing, George Worrall, T. F. Sheridan, Mrs. Margaret Roderick, Charles May, C. H. Carey, Michael Snyder, Oliver J. Phillips.

August—John Fraoe, Miss Mary Hanks, Mrs. S. S. Weller, Henry Marshall, George E. Bachman, E. F. Dowling, John K. Woodward, Alex. Hamilton, Mrs. Ezra Prior, A. M. Jeffords, Richard Anthony, Mrs. D. Davidsburg.

September—Mrs. Sally Ann Carey, David C. Connor, Jacob Jacoby, Frank Robinson, Mrs. J. J. Bulford, Major Jacob Waelder, Stephen H. Abbot, "Daddy" Emmons, Mrs. Faith O. Hoemer, Rev. M. W. Harris, Mrs. Chloe E. Betterly, Miss Maggie Gallagher, Mrs. Sarah A. Pursel, Mrs. Angie Enterline.

October—Mrs. S. McCarragher, Mrs. Letitia Nelson, Mrs. William B. Hick, Mrs. Emma Brodrick Potts, Mrs. D. A. Fell,

Lawyer Dickson's father, Mrs. Rev. E. L. Santee, Marx Lederer, Commodore P. Mack, Nelson Marshall, David Morgan.

November—Amos B. Winder, John C. Barber, Mrs. Julia A. Hall, Captain James P. Dennis, T. M. Beels, Mrs. Samuel Frauenthal, William Hawk, Mrs. S. M. Ennis, Miss Mary L. Perry, Rev. Dr. Tuttle's father, Mrs. B. F. Tucker, Mrs. Mary W. Norton, H. N. Sherman, Christian Kropp, Miss Nancy Wintersteen, J. R. Flick.

December—James Kelley, Thomas Myers, Mrs. Aylife, Mrs. Sarah A. McDormott, Abram S. Honeywell, Mrs. Mary A. Garrettson, Jacob Kohl, Miss Ann G. Chahoon, Talbot H. Perry.

## Mrs. Patterson's Death.

The funeral of Mrs. Sarah I. Patterson, wife of George M. Patterson, took place on December 17 from 106 South Washington Street. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery. She was an attendant upon the worship of the Baptist church, and Rev. Dr. Frear held the funeral.

Mrs. Patterson, whose maiden name was Bird, was born in Chambersburg. She came to Wilkes-Barre with her parents in 1842, her father being a puddler in the rolling mill then being established in this city. In 1851 she married George M. Patterson, their married life having been passed principally in Pittston, during that time but for the last four years they have lived in Wilkes-Barre, Mr. Patterson being a moulder in the employ of the Dickson Manufacturing Company. They have eight children—Helen, a teacher in the Washington Grammar School; George, a machinist in California; Annie, wife of Harry E. Sweeney, of Drifton, member of the firm of Sweeney & Moore, cracker bakers; Thomas, a tailor and cutter in this city; Harry, a student at the Bloomsburg Normal School; Ida, a music teacher; Charles, employed in the L. V. freight office; and Benjamin.

Deceased was a sister of Mrs. Dr. C. S. Beck of this city. She was also an aunt of Mrs. E. J. Phillips, of Charles Jacobs, both of this city, and of Emerson Jacobs of Kingston.

## Died at Elmira.

On December 8 occurred the death at Elmira of Mrs. Dr. Wm. C. Wey, who before her marriage resided in this city. She had many friends in this city, William R. Maffet, Mrs. Charles A. Miner, J. M. and E. S. Loop being cousins and Miss Eliza E. Covell, a sister. Deceased was a granddaughter of Gen. William Ross, an early settler in Wyoming Valley.

**A Pioneer Mother Dead.**

In Carbondale on Thursday, Jan. 12, died Lucretia, wife of John Hughes, at the age of nearly 70 years. Her husband is the well-known mining boss for the D. & H. C. Co., and has been in the employ of that company for 40 years, having moved to Carbondale over 50 years ago.

Mrs. Hughes was born in Aberdare, in South Wales. She was the mother of sixteen children, nine of whom are now living. They are as follows: Francis G., of Scranton; Elizabeth, wife of Warren Tappan, of Carbondale; Edward C., for 30 years a prominent citizen of Black Hawk, Colorado, where he has served one term as sheriff and three terms as mayor; Samuel E., traveling salesman for Levy Bros., of West Market Street; George H., grocer, at 174 East Market Street; William, living on Jackson Street and in the employ of the L. O. & N. Co.; David F., civil engineer employed by the same company; Margaret, wife of Thomas Kirkbride, of Carbondale and James H., outside foreman of the Keystone Coal Co.

Besides these of the second generation there are forty-two grand children and several great-grand children, one of whom is married.

No mother could have merited or received greater affection than was bestowed upon Mrs. Hughes by the large and estimable family which stand as a monument to the faithful work. Not only by the family was she loved and revered, but the whole country side unite in mourning the loss of a dear friend and neighbor.

A large concourse was in attendance at the funeral on Sunday afternoon at Maple Grove Cemetery, Carbondale.

**Miss Ann G. Chahoon Dead.**

Another of Wilkes-Barre's aged citizens has passed away. Miss Ann Grant Chahoon died Friday, Dec. 16, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the residence of Josiah Lewis, Esq., where she had for so many years enjoyed all the comforts of a home with her sister's family. Miss Chahoon was a daughter of George Chahoon and Mary (Baker,) her father being an old time citizen of Wilkes-Barre. She was born here 83 years ago, and has lived here ever since, with the exception of the few years her father's family lived on a farm on the banks of the Susquehanna several miles below Nanticoke.

She was apparently frail in bodily strength, but enjoyed good physical health until the infirmities of age within the last few years compelled her to abstain from much of her

former outdoor exercise. Of her father's family only one sister, Mrs. Arabella Lewis, is now living. Her brother, Anning Owen Chahoon, father of Joseph Slocum Chahoon, died many years ago. Another brother, John Chahoon, now dead five years, was an enterprising contractor and builder of canals and railroads in his day. A sister Elizabeth, also unmarried, died twenty-five years or more ago.

Miss Chahoon was an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and when Memorial Church was organized she united herself with that body and continued a faithful, devoted and earnest christian worker as long as her strength and health permitted her to enjoy that privilege.

Her last illness was of only two weeks duration, and she died full of the christian's hope of salvation. The funeral was held at 2:30 p. m., on Monday from the residence of Josiah Lewis, 63 North Street.

**John I. Labagh's Father Dead.**

Forsyth Labagh died Jan. 17 in Haakensack, N. J., at the advanced age of 84 years. He was a native of New York City and spent his life in the metropolis, except the last 8 or 10 years, during which he made his home in Haakensack with one of his sons. Many Wilkes-Barreans will remember him, he having spent three summers here with his son. Deceased was son of Hon. John I. Labagh, an assemblyman from New York City and an active participant in metropolitan politics, he having declined the proffered nomination for the mayoralty of New York. Like his father, deceased took a warm interest in politics and occupied a position of much prominence in the First Ward of New York City. He was a pronounced Whig, and in company with Thurlow Weed and others stumped Long Island for Henry Clay. He was an old time volunteer fireman and a member of the Mechanics' and Tradesmen's Society, a wealthy organization which maintains a library for apprentices. He was an attendant in Haakensack upon the ministrations of Rev. Arthur Johnson, formerly of Shickshinny, brother-in-law of Sheriff Search.

Deceased is survived by four children—John I. Labagh, of Wilkes Barre; Abram I., of Sedalia, Mo.; William O., of Haakensack, and Mrs. Agnes W. Harrison, of New York City. His only brother living is in New York trade, firm of Labagh & Kemp, organ manufacturers. They built the organ for St. Mary's R. C. Church in Wilkes Barre.

Interment was made in the family plot at Haakensack. His son, John I. Labagh, and the latter's son Forsyth and daughter Annie, attended the funeral, Mrs. Labagh not being able to go.

**FREDERICK MERCUR DEAD.**

**He Constructed the Lehigh Valley Railroad Over the Mountain Into the Wyoming Valley—Pronounced a Walking Case of Typhoid Fever.**

The commanding figure of Frederick Mercur will no more be seen upon our streets, his death having occurred on January 11, between 6 and 7 o'clock pm., at his home on River Street. He had been ill for some days, but there were no alarming symptoms and his death was as unexpected as it was crushing. The cause of death is attributed to typhoid fever, a perforation of the intestine having taken place Wednesday, followed by peritonitis.

Mr. Mercur's illness dates from a trip to Shenandoah, on Dec. 30, he having been called thither by the burning of one of the Lehigh Valley collieries—Packer, No. 4—he contracting a cold while engaged in fighting the flames, the work being under his personal supervision. The fire being extinguished, he returned home on the 31st and on New Year's Day, (Monday,) he met Albert Lewis and General Superintendent Stephenson of the P. & N. Y. C. RR. Co., at his office. On Wednesday, Jan. 4, he was at his office a short time, but went home that day never to return to his busy post.

Mr. Mercur was born in Towanda, on Christmas Day, 51 years ago, his father being Henry S. Mercur. He was a nephew of the late Chief Justice Mercur. At the age of 18 he entered the famous engineering school at Troy, the Kesselsler Polytechnic Institute, though he left before the completion of the course and entered active engineering. He was wont to say that in his younger days he was on an engineer corps which laid out a road up the west side of the Susquehanna from Pittston to the New York line, the corps being in charge of George H. Roberts, now president of the Pennsylvania RR. Co. Mr. Mercur's duties with the rod and level were divided with Joseph Harris, now president of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., and vice president of the Jersey Central.

His name as an engineer is prominently associated with the Lehigh Valley Railroad, but before his service with that company he was employed for a time by the Philadelphia & Erie. Joining the Lehigh Valley his skill as an engineer was so marked a character that he was entrusted with the construction of the Wyoming Division—Penn Haven Junction to Pittston—a most difficult piece of engineering at that day, including as it did the heavy mountain work necessary to get into the Wyoming Valley, with its grade of 100 feet to the mile. Previous to the building of this line all coal and passenger cars were hauled up the mountain at Ashley by stationary engines, the planes now being

used for coal transportation alone. This was about 1866. Subsequently he had charge of the extension of the road to Waverly, N. Y.—the division known as the Pennsylvania & New York Canal & RR. Co. About 1867 he relinquished his position as chief assistant to Chief Engineer Robert H. Sayre, to accept the charge of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.'s collieries in the Wyoming Division. Some 7 years ago his responsibilities were increased by making him general superintendent of all the collieries of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., in both the Wyoming and the Schuylkill coal fields. He was almost phenomenal in his knowledge of details and under his untiring management the company's business was highly prosperous.

Mr. Mercur was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. He was a director in the Wilkes-Barre Hospital and in the P. & N. Y. C. & RR. Co.

He is survived by a widow, Mrs. Emily Mercur, and three children, Robert S., a student in Lehigh University, Miss Bessie, and Fred Mercur, Jr. All were at home except Rob. He leaves three brothers, Col. James Mercur, professor of engineering at West Point Military Academy; Edward G., of Pittston, and Charles, of Passaic, N. J.

Mr. Mercur was a man whom few knew, other than his immediate friends. So absorbed was he in the exacting duties of his company's interests, that his social nature was to a large extent repressed. He had no time for triflers, and persons doing business with him soon learned that dispatch was an essential. Skilled in all the minutiae of coal production and in all the problems of civil and mining engineering, his executive work was not nominal but actual, and he could scrutinize every man's work, or take in his tabulated or statistical statements at a glance. In business he was as fair as he was thorough, and the spirit which actuated him was as noble as it was exacting. The associates who knew him intimately, recognized the nobility of soul where others felt only the chill of reserve. In his home he was one of the most devoted of husbands and kindest of fathers. In his death the community loses a sterling citizen, and his company a superintendent whose place will not easily be filled.

**Died in Kansas.**

On Monday, Jan. 23, occurred the death at the age of 65 years, of Mrs. Sarah Williamson, wife of John Williamson. Mrs. Williamson was the second daughter of Francis and Sophia Dana, and a sister of Mrs. Wm. T. Rhoad, Mrs. J. R. Coolbaugh, Mrs. Wm. M. Bennett and Charles B. Dana, of this city. She leaves a husband and four children

three sons and one daughter. She was born and spent her early life in Wilkes-Barre, was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and a person of more than ordinary mental ability. Her death occurred at Badger Creek, Kansas.

**Joseph Grenawalt Dead.**

[Hazleton Sentinel, Jan. 21.]

On Saturday, Jan. 21, Joseph Grenawalt, one of the oldest and most prominent residents of Hazleton, died of apoplexy, aged 78 years, 8 months and 6 days. He was born in Hanover, near Wilkes-Barre, May 15, 1811. His father was a farmer, but died when Joseph was a young boy. The family remained on the farm and Joseph continued to attend the schools of the township until he had received a fair education. When he was 18 years of age he went out west and traveled on horseback all through that section, which was then wild and unsettled. In after years he was always fond of relating the adventures of that trip among the Indians, and would tell of his visit to the site of the present great city of Chicago when there was but one old log house there, and how he could have purchased the whole of the city's present area for the sum of \$5. When he returned to this section he went to work as a walking boss on the North Branch canal and subsequently on the Lehigh canal. He built the large No. 1 dam at White Haven, and then went to Penn Haven, where he worked some time for the company. He also built the Beaver Meadow R.R., from Jeanesville to Hazle Creek Bridge. After he had completed this work he removed to Hazleton and entered the employ of A. Pardee at the Laurel Hill mine, where he worked some years. Upon quitting this work he entered into partnership with William Kisner in the general mercantile business. Seven years later he built the Mansion House and conducted it as a hotel. In 1837 he was elected a member of the Borough Council, and subsequently held the office of school director and street commissioner. He retired from active business in 1874, having acquired a competency by his years of industry and thrift, and settled down to quietly enjoy with his family the fruits of his labor.

On February 2, 1840, Mr. Grenawalt was united in marriage to Miss Rosanna Charles, daughter of Capt. John Charles, of Conyngham, who survives him. Captain Charles was a veteran of the Mexican war. The two surviving children are Mrs. Stephen D. Eagle and Frank Grenawalt, both of this place. Besides these two he leaves an adopted daughter, Mrs. Torrence McCloakey. Mr. Grenawalt had two sisters and four brothers, viz: Mrs. Sarah Tippenhove, of Iowa City,

Iowa, and Mrs. Richard Gunton, of Wilkes-Barre, the latter deceased. Of the brothers, John died at Hanover four years ago; George went to California many years ago, and has not since been heard of; James is at present living in Wisconsin, and William is a resident of this place. Mr. Grenawalt's mother died in 1880 at the age of 94 years.

**A Colored Pastor Dead.**

[Montrose Independent.]

Rev. Solomon Jones, pastor of the Zion M. E. Church, (colored,) of Montrose, died Jan. 19. He was born in slavery at Hagerstown, Md., about 1823, and secured his freedom by fleeing to Harrisburg when a boy. He did not remain there long, but moving farther in the direction of the North Star, found a safer home in Wilkes-Barre, where in the spring of 1837 he married Mrs. Mary G. Dunham, of the same place, who survives him. They had no children. His only facilities for acquiring any education were two months attendance at school, getting the rest by himself. About 1839 he became a local preacher in the Zion M. E. Church, and after six years became pastor of different churches to which he was assigned by the Conference. He has been stationed at Auburn, Bath, Johnstown, Watertown and Port Deposit, in the State of New York, at Montrose, Pa., six or seven years ago, and was serving a second pastorate of the same church, having been here nearly a year and a half when called to his heavenly reward.

**A Young Wife's Death.**

Less than a year ago the RECORD made mention of the fact that Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Ræder had gone to Bethlehem to attend the wedding of the latter's brother, George Worrall, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Abram Schropp, the date having been Feb. 8, 1887. The sad intelligence now comes of her death at her home in Rochester, N. Y., on Christmas Eve. The funeral took place on Wednesday in Bethlehem, Mr. and Mrs. Ræder having gone thither. Deceased was well known in Wilkes-Barre by reason of her visits here, and her death, at the early age of 22, is sincerely mourned. The *Star* says that in Rochester, as well as in Bethlehem, she formed a large circle of friends. She had enjoyed good health up to within a week of her death. On Friday her parents received notice of her illness and they had determined to visit her on Sunday. On Saturday evening between 7 and 8 o'clock a telegram was received conveying the sad intelligence that she had departed this life.

**A Distinguished Missourian Dead.**

**ROLLINS.**—In Columbia, Mo., Jan. 9. Hon. James S. Rollins, father of Capt. James H. Rollins, U. S. A., aged 75 years.

Copies of the Columbia, Mo., papers bring the intelligence of the death of Major James S. Rollins, father of Capt. Rollins, U. S. A., the latter being well known in Wilkes-Barre as having married a daughter of Mrs. Col. A. H. Bowman. Major Rollins was a Kentuckian, 75 years of age, and received part of his education in Pennsylvania, at Washington College. He studied law and spent the remainder of his life in Columbia, Mo. While a young man, Major Rollins edited a Whig paper in Columbia. His military title was derived from his having served in the Black Hawk war. While in 1838-9 he served two terms in the Legislature as a Whig candidate, and in 1844 he was a delegate to the Baltimore convention which nominated Henry Clay for President. Two years later he was elected to the State Senate, and in 1848 he was the Whig candidate for Governor, though defeated. In 1857 he was again a candidate. In 1860 he was elected to Congress, and was an ardent Unionist. His subsequent life was also full of educational, legislative and senatorial honors. The Columbia papers devote many columns of space to his life and death, and the *Herald* pays this tribute:

Major Rollins will live in history as one of the most accomplished orators Missouri has ever claimed. His great exemplar, as he was accustomed himself to say, was Henry Clay, and he was no unworthy disciple of his illustrious model. In fluency of expression, in adroitness of argument and appeal and in artistic grace he was without a peer. His powers developed at a very early age. Before he had reached 25 years he had a State reputation and for 35 years subsequently—from 1837 to 1872, when he largely retired from public life—he was constantly before the people, frequently as a candidate, but always as a defender of those political principles in which he believed.

**Killed Thousands of Deer and Bears.**

Mr. Peter Boston, who died at the home of his son, Hiram Boston, in Fairmount, on Jan. 2, was the first white settler of that township. He was past 82 years of age, and the earlier years of his life were spent in hunting on the North Mountain. By actual record kept it is ascertained that Mr. Boston's unerring rifle brought down over 1,000 bears and 5,000 deer. He was a consistent christian—a member of the Christian Church, and his declining years were spent in a constant reading and study of the bible. Mr. Boston's descendants are quite numerous in that section.—*Shickshinny Echo*.

**Mr. Myers Buried.**

The funeral of the late Thomas Myers, of Williamsport, took place on December 6 from his old home, Kington. The services were held in the Presbyterian Church and were attended by a large concourse of friends from Kington and Wilkes-Barre. The faculty and students of Wyoming Seminary, whose founding received such substantial aid from deceased, were present, the school having closed for the afternoon out of respect for his memory.

The coffin lid bore a sheaf of ripened grain and a pillow of beautiful flowers with the word "Father" in the centre.

Rev. F. von Krug announced the hymn "Lead Kindly Light," which was feelingly sung by the choir, after which he offered prayer.

Rev. H. H. Welles read from the scriptures and followed with remarks. The deceased represented, he said, two of the pioneer families of Wyoming Valley. He was born Feb. 15, 1802, and was the child of Philip Myers, and Martha Bennet Myers. His mother, who lived until 1851, was gifted even in her old age with a remarkably clear memory of the trying days of '78 and she was the source of much of the early history of the valley, particularly that given in that history of Wyoming, prepared by her son-in-law, Rev. Geo. Peck. Deceased was active in local affairs for many years and was honored with positions of responsibility. He was responsible for the locating of the Wyoming Seminary in Kington when Wilkes-Barre was trying to secure it. He gave the land, he opened the street in front, he put up buildings for the use of the students. He is one of the fathers of the Seminary. Who can estimate the good it has done in equipping the young of both sexes for the battle of life. Thomas Myers was a man of far-seeing generosity and a public spirited citizen. Though a supporter of the church and of religious education he never until quite recently connected himself with the church.

Rev. Mr. Welles then called on Rev. Dr. Sprague, principal of the Seminary.

Dr. Sprague spoke in touching terms of affectionate regard of deceased who was a life director of the Seminary. He was as a father to the institution and every teacher and pupil felt a sense of personal bereavement. As a token of this feeling the school had closed for the afternoon to attend the funeral. Dr. Sprague had always found Mr. Myers an upright man, a courteous gentleman and a warm friend of Christian education.

The choir sang "Beyond the Smiling and the Weeping," after which the friends took a last look at the departed, and then followed to Forty Fort Cemetery where inter-

ment was made in the family plot. The honorary pall bearers were A. J. Roak, S. B. Vaughn, H. B. Payne, Wm. Loveland, A. H. Reynolds and Frank Helme. The carriers were Frank Helme, Jr., D. L. Boone, Chas. H. Reynolds, A. H. Tubbe, Thomas Waddell, 2nd, and N. G. Pringle.

#### Death of an Old Resident.

Mrs. Mary Wambold, an old resident of Wilkes-Barre, 77 years of age, fell down stairs at the residence of her son-in-law, M. J. Redington, Plymouth, at about 8 o'clock Monday, Dec. 26, and was rendered unconscious, never speaking a word after the fall. She died on Wednesday, about 10 pm. Deceased was the wife of the late Aaron Wambold, who kept the old Wyoming Hotel on South Main Street for many years. The site of this hotel is now occupied by Long & Durant's store. She was also the mother of Cornelius Wambold, of Wilkes-Barre, from whose residence on Canal Street the funeral services will be held on Saturday morning after the arrival of the remains from Plymouth, from which place the funeral procession will start at 10 a m Interment will take place in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Died of Old Age.

Zebulon C. Stevens, an old resident of the 11th Ward of this city, died on Friday, Jan. 27, at 4:30 pm. of old age, having been in a feeble condition since last summer. Mr. Stevens came to Wilkes-Barre in 1840 and engaged in the manufacture of brick, and continued in that business up to 1871, since which time he has engaged in lighter labors. He was known by the older inhabitants of the city as a hard working, upright man and a good citizen. At the time of his decease he was in his seventy-ninth year. He leaves three daughters and one son—Mrs. Arnold Bertels, Mrs. Christian Sharar, Mrs. Thomas M. Washburne and George E. Stevens—his wife having died three years ago last August. The funeral took place from the residence of T. M. Washburne, 304 South Main Street, Tuesday afternoon, January 31, at 2 pm.; interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

While the American Army was in Mexico, the officers raised money to purchase a model of the Valencian silver mine, to present to West Point. In looking over the list of subscribers, recently, as printed in the *American Star* published in the city of Mexico, of April 12, 1848, we found these three names among them, with the amounts they gave: Captain Lee, \$10; Lieutenant U. S. Grant, \$3; Lieutenant Ewell, \$5.00. Since that day these three officers have become well known to the country.

#### A Bundle of Old Almanacs.

A curious collection of old almanacs has been shown the Record by Hon. H. B. Plumb, they ranging from 1791 to 1808. the one for 1792 is styled "Poor Will's Almanack," printed and sold by Joseph Orushank, 91 High Street, Philadelphia. The next one (1796) is of the same description. The one for 1796 is called "The Balloon Almanac," and bears the imprint: "Lancaster, printed by William and Robert Dickson, for John Wyeth, Harrisburg." On the title page is a rough wood cut of a balloon ascension. The 1806 issue is called "Oram's New York Almanac for the year of human redemption, 1806, printed for T. and J. Swords, 160 Pearl Street." The book for 1807 is interesting as having been published by a Wilkes-Barrean, Asher Miner, brother of Charles Miner, the historian. It is called "Miner's Pennsylvania and New York Almanac," the astronomical calculations made by Joshua Sharp, and the print of "Asher Miner, at Doylestown, Bucks County, Penn." It is made up of astronomical calculations and of miscellaneous reading, as also a prognostication of the weather. Here is a curious note: "Opposite the 14th August is this lunar-formed sign, ☾, from which time to the 28th is a proper season to haul out and spread manure. On the 28th the sign is reversed, thus ☽, when it is a proper season to plow it in."

The last almanac in the collection, which is sewed together with shoemaker's thread, is "Johnson's Pennsylvania and New Jersey Almanac for 1808," evidently a successor to Miner's. It is printed in Philadelphia, and the calculations are by the same Joshua Sharp. The most interesting article is a detailed description of the great eclipse of the sun June 15, 1806, attended as it was with total darkness and the visibility of the stars.

#### Who Shot Aunt Hannah Porter.

Dr. Urquhart in Sunday's *Leader* referred in a humorous kind of a way to a shooting accident that occurred on the Kingston side of the river some forty years or more ago, but he omitted to identify both the parties concerned. One of them, Aunt Hannah Porter, has long since gone to her rest; the young man who did the shooting was then a law student in Wilkes-Barre, and has since had the honor of occupying a seat on the bench as president judge of Luzerne County. The victim of the accident was no less a person than the daughter of Abram Pike, the Indian killer, as he was called in the latter days of his life. Aunt Hannah had gone across the river for wild grapes and it was while up a tree in search of them that she received the contents of young Garrick Harding's shot gun.



PIONEER LIFE.

Some Idea of the Cost of Living in Wyoming Valley from 1770 to 1804 as Taken from a Farmer's Account Book. [Contributed by H. B. Plumb.]

Appended are some extracts from the accounts of Elisha Blackman, senior, from 1770 to 1804. The writer has reduced this currency of both Connecticut and Pennsylvania to dollars and cents in a separate column. The fractions of cents have been omitted when less than half and an extra cent added when more than half. Mr. Blackman was in Connecticut from 1770 to 1772, then in Wilkes-Barre until the battle in 1778, then in Connecticut again till 1787, then again in Wilkes-Barre till his death in 1804. While he was in Wilkes-Barre the second time the currency changed from that of Connecticut (6 shillings to the dollar) to the currency of Pennsylvania (7 shillings and 6 pence to the dollar). This change in currency grew out of the Decree of Trenton in 1782, changing the jurisdiction of Connecticut to that of Pennsylvania.

"These accounts are introduced to show the prices of labor and the kind of currency or money the accounts were kept in, both in Connecticut and Pennsylvania. It is strange that such a currency should have been used when they had neither coins nor paper to represent it. The only coins they had were Spanish, it seems. These were dollars, half dollars, quarter dollars and pistareens (18 cents), eighths and sixteenths of a dollar. These last two were called here 'levies' and 'fips' in Pennsylvania phraseology 'for short,' but their full names were 'eleven-penny-bit' and 'five-penny-bit,' or 'fip-pennybit.' In New York currency these two were called 'shilling' and 'sixpence' and took just eight of the shillings to make a dollar. In accounts these coins when received or paid out, were charged or credited in pounds, shillings and pence in each of the colonies before the Revolution, and in the States afterward till 1806. After 1806 accounts were kept in either, sometimes in both currencies at once." Quoted from Plumb's History of Hanover Township, p. 215.

IN CONNECTICUT.

	6 s. to the dollar		
	£.	s.	d.
1770 Jan.-11 3-16 lbs. cheese	0	4	11
2 days use of yoke oxen	0	3	0
1771 14 Days work	0	4	6
18 Quarts milk	0	3	0
30 Lbs. of fish	0	6	0
1 Day's work	0	2	0
6 Lbs. fish	0	1	6
1 Day's work at wall	0	3	0
6 Lbs. of fish	0	1	3
6 Geese and 1 gosling	0	13	0
1 Grindstone	0	12	0
8½ Bushels of oats	0	7	1

1 Lb. tobacco	0	0	8	11
1 Gallon rum	0	4	0	66
1 Day mowing	0	3	0	50
¼ Quintal of fish	0	5	0	83½
70 Weight of beef	0	11	8	1 94
¾ Quarts of milk	0	1	1	18
2 Bushels of peas	0	14	0	2 88½
1772 1 Calf	0	13	0	2 00
May 20. 2 days digging stone	0	6	0	1 00

IN WILKES-BARRE. Connecticut Currency.

	£. s. d. ¢			
1772 June 1. 2 men and 2 horses to plow an acre	0	6	0	1 00
1 Day's work	0	3	0	50
3 Carrying chain	0	9	0	1 50
3 Loads of hay	1	10	0	5 00
2½ Yards of tow cloth	0	5	0	83½
1773 Boarding 2 weeks	0	12	0	2 00
¼ Bushel seed corn	0	2	0	83½
Cash two dollars	0	12	0	2 00
7 Days self and man moving J. Ewens from Lancaster to Hanover	1	8	0	4 66½
1 bushel of oats	0	1	6	25
Jan. 20. 2 bushels corn	0	6	0	1 00
Ferry (over and back)	0	1	0	16½
Ferry to fetch bushel corn	0	0	8	11
Freight, Norwich to New York	0	4	6	75
Freight, New York to New Windsor	0	3	0	50
1 Bushel corn	0	3	6	58½
1774 One quarter of a town lot	2	14	0	9 00
12 Lbs. tobacco	0	6	0	1 00
½ Lb. hatched flax	0	1	0	16½
20 Pumpkins	0	1	8	27
1 Bushel of corn	0	8	0	50
3 10-0. Lbs. of pork	0	1	8	20
8½ Lbs. of mutton	0	2	9	45
¼ Bushel of wheat	0	3	0	50
1 Day killing hogs	0	2	6	41½
1 Bushel flaxseed	0	6	0	1 33½
1 Hog, weight 182 lbs.	2	18	1	8 84½
1 Bushel of oats	0	2	0	83½
16 Lbs. of pork	0	11	0	1 88½
4 Lbs. of flax	0	3	0	50
1 Day's work	0	2	6	4½
1775 1 Day yoke of oxen	0	1	6	25
2 Lbs. of pork	0	1	0	16½
3½ Lbs. of flax	0	2	4	28
25 Bundles of oats	0	6	0	1 00
6 Quarts of salt	0	3	0	50
2 Days' reaping	0	7	0	1 17
Plowing 2 acres of land	0	12	0	2 00
39 Quarts of milk	0	6	6	1 08½
10 Bushels of corn	1	10	0	5 00
¼ Bushel of potatoes	0	1	0	16½
¼ Lbs. of butter	0	1	0	16½
2 Lbs. of tobacco	0	1	0	16½
1 Bushel of oats	0	1	6	25
1 Day myself and oxen	0	4	0	66
1776 Plowing two acres of flax land and sowing the seed and harrowing the land	0	18	0	3 00
3 Lbs. tobacco	0	1	9	29
¼ Bushel of beans	0	2	0	33½
¼ of Beef, 83 lbs., at 3d	1	0	9	3 45½
1 Week's board	0	5	0	83½
1 Bushel of oats	0	1	6	26

	Tapping a pair of shoes	0	3	0	50						
	Footing a pair of socks	0	3	0	50						
	¼ Bushel of salt.....	0	6	0	1 00						
	4 Dollars lent to.....	1	4	0	4 00						
	7 Yards check linen.....	1	1	0	3 38						
	Making two shirts.....	0	4	0	66						
	3 Days scoring timber	0	9	0	1 50						
	1½ Bushels of corn.....	0	2	6	41½						
	2 Lbs. of cheese.....	0	1	4	22						
	5 Yds. tow cloth.....	0	15	0	2 50	1783	16 shillings and 3 pence				
	5½ Lbs. of pork.....	0	2	3	37½		State money.....	0	8	1½	1 38
	1 Bushel of rye.....	0	4	0	66		2 Days' carting stone..	0	6	0	1 00
	4½ bushels of potatoes	0	13	6	2 25		1 Day hoeing corn.....	0	2	6	41½
	Carting 2 loads of wood	0	3	0	50		1 Day reaping.....	0	3	0	50
	and one load of knots..	0	6	0	1 00		1 Day thrashing corn..	0	2	6	41½
	4 Bushels of hay seed..	0	1	6	25		To clearing a swamp...	2	10	0	8 33½
	45 feet of boards.....	0	6	0	1 00		1 Day ditching.....	0	2	6	41½
1777	1 day hauling logs.....	0	6	0	1 00	1783	1 Day hoeing.....	0	8	0	50
	1 Bushel of oats.....	0	1	10	30		1 Day reaping.....	0	4	0	66
	28 Lbs. of flax.....	1	13	5	5 58½		1 Day breaking flax...	0	2	6	41½
	1 Load of wood.....	0	6	0	1 00		5 days' mowing, find				
	Plowing your garden						vituals.....	1	0	0	3 33½
	and cutting a load of						1 Mowing.....	0	4	0	66
	wood.....	0	6	0	1 00		1½ Day about your coal				
	Killing a hog.....	0	1	0	16½		pit.....	0	8	9	66
	Cash paid, 8 dollars...	2	8	0	8 00	1784	1½ Day mowing.....	0	6	0	1 00
	1 day plowing corn...	0	2	6	41½		4½ Bushels of rye.....	0	12	4	2 05
	3 Boys and Daniel						1 Pair of shoes.....	0	7	6	1 26
	Downing, ¼ day.....	0	5	0	85½		1 Pair of bridle bits...	0	1	0	16½
	5 Weeks' board.....	1	7	6	4 58½		2 Days making walls...	0	6	0	1 00
1778	1 Load of wood.....	0	6	0	1 00		1 Day mowing.....	0	8	0	50
	2½ Bushels of flax seed	1	1	6	3 58½		1 Day reaping.....	0	8	6	58½
	My oxen, 2 days.....	0	6	0	1 00		2 Days breaking flax..	0	5	0	83½
	1 Bushel of potatoes..	0	3	0	50		To taking one of your				
	4 pounds of the pro-						cattle in the winter				
	prietor's money.....	4	0	0	13 33½	1785	of 1788.....	1	0	0	3 33½
	11 Quarts of corn.....	0	1	6	25		1 Lb. of tobacco.....	0	0	6	08½
	Jan. 26. ¼ a right in						1 Pair of old leather				
	the purchase.....	2	1	0	6 69		breeches.....	0	2	0	33½
	There is a hiatus until after the mas-						1 Day thrashing.....	0	2	6	41½
	saacre. Mr. Blackman fled to Connecticut						1 Day mowing.....	0	4	0	66
	where he resided until 1787.						3½ Weeks' board.....	1	2	0	3 66½
	IN CONNECTICUT.						To taving care of your				
							cattle in the winter				
							of 1784.....	1	0	0	3 33½
							1 Day reaping.....	0	8	6	58½
1779	6 months' work of						1 Day hoeing corn....	0	8	0	50
	Ichabod at one pound						1 Day breaking flax...	0	2	6	41½
	ten shillings per						1 Bushel of wheat....	0	7	0	1 16½
	month "old way" (his						7 weeks and 2 days				
	17 year old son).....	9	0	0	30 00		board for 3 children	3	6	0	11 00
	¼ day killing hogs....	0	1	3	21		7 weeks' schooling 8				
	2 days hoeing corn....	0	5	0	83½		children.....	0	7	0	1 16½
	12 Lbs. veal (a quarter)	0	3	0	50		Schooling Sarviah 2				
	6 Days work getting						weeks.....	0	1	0	16½
	bark.....	0	15	0	2 50		1 Petticoat for Rebecca	0	1	0	16½
	1 Hog, weight 60 lbs.,						1 month work of Elea-				
	at 3 pence.....	0	15	0	2 50		zer, (now 20 years				
	2 Beef plucks, 24 lbs..	0	4	0	66		old).....	1	5	0	4 16½
	2 Heads.....	0	1	8	28		1 Pair of new stockings	0	2	0	33½
	4 Tripes.....	0	2	0	33½		13 Weeks' board Su-				
	1 Day reaping.....	0	3	0	50		sanah, at 3 shillings	1	19	0	6 50
	2 Days' mowing.....	0	6	0	1 00	1786	3 days riving shingles.	0	9	0	1 50
1780	5½ Lbs tobacco.....	0	2	9	46		5 Lbs. tobacco at 6				
	1 Day's work.....	0	8	0	50		pence.....	0	2	6	41½
	1 Sheep.....	0	9	0	1 50		¼ Bushel of potatoes..	0	1	0	16½
	1 Bushel of wheat....	0	5	0	88½		40 Lbs. of pork.....	1	0	0	3 33½
	Making one shirt.....	0	2	0	33½		24 Lbs of cheese.....	0	12	0	2 00
	40 Shillings State						6 Lbs. of butter.....	0	4	6	75
	money.....	1	0	0	3 33½		1 Day mowing.....	0	3	6	58½
	To cutting wood at the						2 Days' making walls..	0	6	0	1 00
	door one year and						1 Bushel of maslin(two				
	foddering.....	1	10	0	5 00		kinds of grain mixed,				
1781	2 Days' thrashing.....	0	5	0	83½		as rye and Indian				
	6 months' work of Ele-						corn, or wheat and				
	aser, (son, boy of 15						rye.....	0	4	0	66½

1 Day breaking flax....	0	2	6	41%
18 Weeks keeping Susan Lomas, at 2s. 6d. per week.....	1	12	6	5 41%
Cloth for a petticoat and shirt.....	0	6	0	1 00

Here ends the keeping of the accounts in Connecticut currency at six shillings to the dollar. Wyoming having come under Pennsylvania jurisdiction by the Decree of Trenton, the subsequent accounts are in Pennsylvania currency, seven shillings and six pence to the dollar.

#### The Sullivan Journals.

[Letter to the Editor.]

On the 8th of October I wrote an article on the journals of the Sullivan expedition against the Western Indians, lately published by the State of New York, in which I said:

"Among the journals is one purporting to have been written by Maj. James Norris. On page 280, commencing Aug. 14, 1779, it will be found that the journal is an exact copy of that of Lt.-Col. Dearborn, from Aug. 14, 1779, to the end, see page 70," etc.

"The Norris and Dearborn journals are copies of each other from the 14th of August, 1779, to the end." "The Norris journal is filled out with the general orders issued by Gen. Sullivan at the camp in Easton, May 24, 1779."

H. E. H., in articles printed in the *Historical Record*, Vol. 1—p 218, and another in the *Wilkes-Barre Record* of Dec. 6, 1887, attempts to question my statement of the matter, and charges me with misrepresentation. A very serious charge! How does he prove it? To make out his case, or in his attempt to make it out, he misquotes and misrepresents my statement of the case entirely. He charges me with stating "that the journal of Norris had been enlarged by a *third party* copying certain portions of Dearborn's journal.

Now I said nothing of the kind? What I did say will be seen above, and the most distorted imagination cannot make out his statement of the case. But, however, that may be, I have this to say right here. What I said is true, every word of it. I shall leave it for some one else to vouch for the truth of what H. E. H. says upon the subject and whether he quotes me correctly.

H. E. H. is a friend of mine and an esteemed and intelligent co-worker in historical and genealogical research, and I have always admired the zeal and earnestness with which he espouses a cause. But his zeal often misleads him, and carries him far astray, as it has done in this case. He evidently has wandered too far from his text. He

should know by this time the impropriety of misquoting his text and preaching on his misquotations. They must be bad off who would thank him for his intemperate zeal in this matter.

Again. H. E. H. attempts to appear very learned upon the subject of these two journals and talks as if he had examined them critically as to handwriting and etc. This is all assumption with not a particle of fact in it. He says:

"Each journal bears strong internal evidence of having been written throughout to the party to whom it is credited. Unless Mr. Jenkins has seen the original M. S. of Norris's journal and is sure the suspected parts are not in the same hand writing with the part that is not suspected his criticism is not just."

I have said nothing upon the subject of handwriting or "suspected party" in connection with either of the journals, nor did I know that these questions were involved in the case. I wish H. E. H. had carefully read what I said about these two journals, and I think he would have been slow to make the accusations he has.

I stated, with reference to the publications, the fact that the Norris and Dearborn journals were copies of each other and asked for information as to why this was so. Hon. George S. Conover, the compiler of the publication, to whom I wrote upon the subject, answering, said:

"The Norris and the Dearborn journals are counterparts, the one evidently being copied from the other. As published they are both literal copies. Which of the two is the original I don't know." "For a long time the Secretary of State was inclined to allow only one of them to be published, but at my earnest remonstrance he gave way."

This was gentlemanly. It was satisfactory. The Norris journal was a mystery. This is the conclusion arrived at by the parties who had possession of and carefully inspected both of these journals, in connection with parties in whose judgment they confided. I do not and shall not pretend to be wiser than they, and H. E. H. with his limited knowledge of the subject I hope will not.

I made the discovery of the fact that these two journals were copies of each other, supposing no one else was aware of the fact and wrote for information upon the subject to Mr. Conover, the compiler, who wrote in reply, the substance of which I have given.

In the article published Dec. 6, 1887, H. E. H. says that I called the attention of your readers to the *marked similarity* of the two journals, written respectively by Col. Dearborn and Maj. Norris as published, and accounted for this similarity by charging the secretary of the Buffalo History Society with having interpolated the Norris journal with

extended extracts from the Dearborn journal.

Without reference to the points stated, whether they be true or false, this is the truth in the matter: I did not call the attention of your readers or any one else "to the marked similarity of the two journals"—I said "they were exact copies of each other." I did not account for any similarity, nor did I charge the secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society or any body else "with having interpolated the Norris journal with extended extracts from the Dearborn journal."

I asked for information. I asked for it through the corresponding secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society from whom I got none. Through G. S. Conover from whom I got what I have given and more. A third party attempted to give it, from whom I got nothing but a garbled misrepresentation of what I asked.

I have accused no one; do not desire to accuse any one, nor to injure anyone in character or otherwise. All I have asked, all I now ask, is information—the truth—and I would be glad to assist in clearing up the doubt that hangs around the subject. I am sorry to say, however, that this desire is not sympathized with on the part of H. E. H. and his friends. They seem to want to smother investigation.

The reason I have taken a more than ordinary interest in this matter arises from the fact that I have a "Norris Journal" which is quite different from the one published in the State collection as his, and it seemed very remarkable to me that a different one should be published in connection with Dearborn's journal, of which it is an exact copy. I sought to know why this is so—very killing thing, I hope.

If there have been any persons in connection with this subject who have been in the wrong, so that they have scented its exposure afar off, and rushed into the battle without their armor, they must not blame me for their error or their rashness.

After all the only difference between H. E. H. and myself is just the difference between what I said and what I did not say; between the word spoken and the error that lurked in its pathway; between truth and fiction. The difference, however, is wide.

STUBEN JENKINS.

Wyoming, Dec. 10, 1887.

P. S.—I would answer Mr. Barnum here somewhat at length, but from the fact that I have answered him in answering H. E. H. Mr. Barnum is in a worry on these points: "I can assure you no alterations were made by me save in the correction of typographical errors, spelling, punctuation, etc., to make the matter exact and literal. The text itself in the original is all in one hand-

writing and shows that no interpolations have ever been made."

Who charged that alterations had been made in the Norris journal by Mr. Barnum? Who charged that interpolations had been made? Not I. That is a charge of H. E. H.'s getting up, and as his defense of Mr. Barnum seems to be satisfactory to them, it must necessarily be so to me. The matter is one entirely between them, and they do me great injustice in dragging me into their slugging match, and on false charges lay the burden of their sins on my shoulders. Why not act and talk like men conscious of the rectitude of their work and the purity of their intentions, seeking the truth of history rather than its perversion, seeking the facts in relation to the Norris journal rather than a concealment of its bastard origin and character.

On page 228 of the publication, when speaking of the Norris journal it is stated: "The following has been carefully revised and corrected by George G. Barnum, Esq., Cor. Sec'y of the Buffalo Historical Society." And again, "An imperfect copy of this journal, with several omissions and many important errors." Such is the language of the book. How am I to blame for it? The fierce and ungenerous manner in which I have been assailed in this case has left me no other course than the one I have taken, to answer the attack made on me for seeking information as to how it was that most of the Norris journal was an exact copy of that of Dearborn. I have not sought this controversy, but it has been forced upon me by a two fold attack, and I have done what I felt was right under all the circumstances, both as to the facts and temper of the attacks. It may appear rough to some, but I was roughly assailed, and in no other way could I be equal to the occasion. S. J.

#### Three Colored Wilkes-Barrens of Note.

George B. Kulp, Esq., in his "Families of the Wyoming Valley," says that during the time he was a member of the school board of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, there were three colored school teachers here. Hon. J. J. Wright, (now dead,) who studied law in Montrose, and who afterwards became a judge of the Supreme Court, of South Carolina; George W. Mitchell, who became a professor of Greek and Latin in Howard University, Washington, D. C., (after graduating at the Oberlin University, Ohio,) and John H. Smythe, who was appointed minister to Liberia. The latter was in Wilkes-Barre on January 24th and delivered the address on the occasion of the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.

### ABRAHAM LINCOLN HONORED

#### Those Deepest in His Debt Celebrate His Greatest Deed.

Abraham Lincoln's emancipation proclamation was enthusiastically anniversarized Tuesday, Jan. 23 by Wilkes-Barre's colored people. Landmesser's Hall was resplendent with red, white and blue streamers, and with star spangled banner streamers around the room and diagonally from corner to corner.

Hon. J. H. Smythe, of Washington, was the speaker of the evening. He wore a dress suit, had a good voice, used good language and his pronunciation was noticeably chaste. He read from manuscript, taking for his subject "Race Pride or Self Respect." The address was largely a description of the life and work of the Earl of Beaconsfield, as the greatest exemplar of this idea.

H. W. Dunning, Esq., responded, taking for his subject "Nation Making." A striking contrast was given of the negro race in and out of servitude and the effects growing out of the civil war. Mr. Dunning's effort was warmly applauded.

Miss Maria Wedlock read an interesting sketch of Wm. O. Gilderleeve, a Wilkes-Barrean who figured conspicuously as an abolitionist 50 years ago and who was subjected to mob violence.

Miss Agnes Tucker read an essay on Gershon Prince, a negro who participated in the Wyoming massacre in 1778, and it was as follows:

From the earliest pages of history to the present time the negro has formed a most important part, not only in the history of America but in foreign countries as well. We have handed down to us scores of white heroes but here and there a negro hero shines out like fertile spots in the great desert. Such an one was Gershon Prince. He was probably born in Connecticut or Rhode Island in 1738, and at the early age of 23, under Captain Israel Putnam, he accompanied Lieut. Durkee in the battle against the French and Indians. He joined in the engagement with a heroism worthy of a Bonaparte or Alexander the Great, and like Washington, who was the same age as Prince at his starting point, feared nothing. Still following Putnam we heard of him next in the war of England and Spain in 1763. He belonged to the Connecticut regiment, and still further on in the great fight for America's freedom he joined Col. Christopher Green's regiment from Rhode Island. Thus we see the negro has played a part in the two great struggles for freedom, the Revolutionary war, and lastly the civil war. In 1777 Prince now in the famous Black Regiment, repelled the first onset of the British and compelled

them to retreat. Soon after this battle we again hear of Prince with Captain Durkee in New Jersey, as a soldier in the 1st Independent Co. from Wyoming. When the news arrived of the approach of Tories and Indians to Wyoming, Prince hastened with the rest to protect the wives and children of the settlers. With this brave struggle, which was the last, ended the life of as noble and true a soul as we have any knowledge of. From his lifeless body was taken a powder horn on which was inscribed "Prince, negro, his horn," which is now in the cabinet of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. Peace to the ashes of Gershon Prince.

Hon. John J. Smythe was born July 14, 1844, near Richmond, Va. He went to Philadelphia in his ninth year to be educated, and attended a Quaker school and then a Grammar school. From the latter he went to the Institute for colored youths, graduating in 1862.

He then entered the academy of fine arts at Philadelphia. He went to London, England in 1865 with a view of studying for the stage, but for lack of means he abandoned the study. In 1867 and 1868 he taught school in Wilkes Barre, while here he gave public and private readings and was popular as an elocutionist as well as an efficient teacher. In 1869 he entered Howard University law department. Subsequently he practiced law in Wilmington N. C. and was a member of the constitutional convention of that state in 1876. Some time after this he went to Washington to practice law. In May 1876 President Hayes appointed him Consul General to Liberia. He was reappointed April 12, 1882. He was recalled by President Cleveland in March 25, 1885. The Liberian College of which the distinguished linguist Dr. Blyden is president, conferred on him the degree, LL. D. He is an honorary member of the Athenian Club, one of the most distinguished and exclusive of London.

#### Mr. Wright's Latest Novel.

Caleb E. Wright, Esq., formerly of Wilkes-Barre, now of Doylestown, has just finished a new novel, and has placed the manuscript in the hands of Robert Baur & Son, of this city, for publication. Like Mr. Wright's previous works—"Marcus Blair," "Tale of the Laokawanna," "Legend of Bucks County" and others—it will be founded on fact. The scene is located largely in Wyoming Valley, and the actors are the old settlers so well known to local fame, some of them to a fame far more than local. The title is "Rachel Craig," and the dedication is to Hon. E. L. Dana and Harry Hakee, Esq., of Wilkes Barre, companions of the author on many a troutling expedition to the wilds

of Bowman's Creek and other of their favorite haunts. It is a pleasing fact that while Mr. Wright is growing in years his literary work is growing in excellence. His "Legend of Bucks County" alone would stamp him as a star of bright magnitude in the world of letters.

#### Interesting Reminiscence of the Rebellion

A few evenings ago a small knot of military gentlemen were discussing "personal reminiscences" of the late war, when several anecdotes of individual bravery were recounted, one of which will bear being told in print. Like many other examples of its kind, it will never be recorded in the annals of the great struggle. It will live, however, as unwritten history in the memory of those who witnessed the intrepid daring of the hero of the thrilling incident, who is none other than genial Col. Harry Laycock, of Wyoming. The story was told by a captain of the old 143d, which was commanded by Gen. Dana. The old captain's eyes glowed with eloquent fire as he recalled, after many years, the stirring episode, saying: "One day in the early summer of 1863 we were lying near Pollock's Mills, on the Rappahannock, supporting Cooper's Battery. A few hundred yards in front of us ran the Fredericksburg Turnpike, behind which in the trenches lay the 56th Pennsylvania waiting for the kindly shelter of night to afford them an opportunity to join the main column. Between our line and the Turnpike a vast wheat field stretched; to the right of which in the shadow of a strip of woods, about 200 rebel Sharpshooters had prevented all day, any attempt of our boys to relieve the 56th, from its perilous position. A few hours before, the 14th Brooklyn, which had charged across the wheat field was whipped back with serious loss by the Sharpshooters hidden in the woods. The afternoon was drawing to a close, although the sun was still high in the heavens, when down our line astride of a handsome bay charger rode Harry Laycock, who was then major of the 56th. He had just returned from home where he had been on furlough. As he reined up before our line and hailed us, he looked the handsomest soldier we had ever gazed upon. He was a perfect type of manly beauty, and decked out in the livery of war, in his gorgeous new uniform, spurred and buckled, erect in bearing, he seemed in his glorious young manhood as he sat there, as magnificent a soldier as ever crossed a

sword. After he had greeted us he turned to me and said 'Captain, can you tell me where my regiment is?' I answered: 'Yes, just beyond the wheatfield yonder in the trenches behind the turnpike.' He reined up his horse and was about to canter off to where his regiment lay when we told him of the situation and the sure fate that awaited him if he dared the attempt. We pointed to the brave fellows of the 14th Brooklyn who lay dying and dead in the wheatfield from the ruthless bullets of the Rebs. He was not to be stayed, however. We begged him for God's sake not to risk the fury of that deadly fusilade. He answered, getting down from his horse and tightening up his girths, by saying: 'My furlough has expired. I must reach my regiment. I am not afraid.' Mounting, he spurred his horse against the crowd that opposed him. Flinging his bridle rein across his charger's neck, he set his face as impenetrable as granite, changing though it was, against the importunities of his friends. He thrust his bay forward while he waved his hand above his head. His voice, well known, well loved, thrilled our hearts like a trumpet call as he yelled 'good bye, boys!' Away he sped across the wheat field, his horse's hoofs striking the lingering life out of some nearly dead comrade, or trampled over the writhing limbs of some brother in arms. With eager eyes and a prayer on every lip we watched him; half way over and yet no sound of musketry from the woods. We paused breathless and thought that his magnificent daring and bravery had challenged the admiration or palled the courage of the rebels and they would not kill him; when suddenly from the woods, the hive of men that had been so still and motionless, broke into a violent movement out into the open; a volley from 200 rifles flashed fire. Whiff, zip, the bullets flew like hail about him. With marvelous and matchless swiftness, with the roused ferocity of the bounding tiger, his horse plunged forward out of the range of the rebel bullets, away from the downward sweep of this immature war cloud that came so near tossing him into eternity. With a whirr like the noise of the eagle's wings and a swoop like an eagle's seizure, he breasted the brow of the hill, turned and waved his cap to the eager throng that had watched his brave charge into the jaws of death, into the face of the leaden hell. There was a ring of cheer in response like the clarion blast.

The effort was superb.

It was not the bravery born in the heat of battle and spurred on by impending danger but the heroism of calm courageous resolution.

He emerged from this scathing fire, as we afterwards learned without a scratch."

## A REMINISCENT REVIEW.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke and the Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre in 1844.

[Evening Leader.]

The services in the First Presbyterian Church Feb. 12 were the last to be held in that edifice, now to be given up to the Osterhout Free Library. The next Sunday the congregation took possession of its new Sunday school building, the first services being the administration of the Lord's Supper. Rev. Dr. Hodge preached in the morning, but the evening service was devoted to an informal farewell service. Capt. Calvin Parsons, the oldest elder, related some intensely interesting reminiscences of the church life as he remembered it from the time he was converted under the preaching of Mr. Baker, the evangelist, nearly 50 years ago. Rev. Dr. Parke also gave his recollections of the 42 years spent by him in Wyoming Valley. Rev. H. E. Welles was the last speaker, and mentioned that he was converted under the same evangelist as was Mr. Parsons.

The following interesting paper was read by Dr. N. G. Parke, of Pittston, at the farewell service in the Presbyterian church, this city, Sunday evening, to a congregation that crowded the edifice to its fullest capacity:

With the invitation to be with you in these services, the last you expect to hold in this house, came the request that I should be prepared to contribute a brief chapter of reminiscences. Nothing was said as to the character of these reminiscences. I assume that they may be of men, or women, or churches, so that they relate to Wilkes-Barre. I heard of a colored preacher who said he preferred exhorting to preaching, because in exhorting he was not confined to a text, he had liberty. And that is just my position this evening. I have not the tether of a text.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes in a book of reminiscences of England as he found it fifty years ago, tells us that he hesitated to give the book to the press because of its personal character. In attempting to speak to you of Wilkes-Barre as I saw it forty three years ago, I am made to sympathize with the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table. It necessitates the making prominent the *ego*.

I reached Wilkes-Barre on the Saturday before the first Sabbath of May, 1844, having ridden on horseback during the week, something over 200 miles from my home in the southern part of the state. This was before the days of railroads in northern Pennsylvania. I stopped at the house of the Rev. Dr. Dorrance where I expected to spend the Sabbath. The doctor was absent attending the meeting of the general assembly and his wife was out making pastoral calls. I was

obliged to look for another resting place for myself and my horse. I found one at Denis' tavern which stood where the Second National Bank now stands. It was not an expensive place to stay and that suited my financial condition at that time. Shortly after my arrangements for the night were made, I had a call from a Princeton class mate, Solomon McNair, who had come from Berwick to supply Mr. Dorrance's pulpit. He was temporarily supplying the pulpit of Dr. Hand who was in New Jersey collecting funds to pay for a new church. This good brother McNair had come to Wilkes-Barre expecting to be entertained over Sabbath at the house of Judge Collins, but found the ladies of the house in the midst of that annual turning over of things known as house cleaning, and there was no room in the prophet's chamber for the young prophet.

On Sabbath morning we found the Presbyterian sanctuary. I preached in the morning and McNair in the evening. The congregation impressed us pleasingly. When I rose to speak I comforted myself with the thought that if I failed there was no one in the congregation that knew me. But I had only announced my text when looking over the congregation I saw Dr. Samuel Hammel prepared to hear what I had to say. I had been in his school in Lawrenceville and would as soon have preached before Dr. McCosh as before him. I subsequently learned that he was here visiting his cousin, Mr. McClintock. The house in which we worshipped was a plain frame building, very plain as compared with this beautiful house, and stood where this house stands. It argued "a frugal mind" on the part of the people, as was the salary of \$500 promised the pastor. The pulpit was in the front of the building. It had an organ loft in which there was a very sweet toned organ. There was but one church bell in the town or in the county, and that was in the tower of the church on the Square, then occupied by the Methodists. Old Michael was the sexton of the Presbyterian church and my impression is that besides ringing the "Curfew" bell every evening and tolling it for all funerals, he rang it for all the churches. Mr. Calvin Parsons led the singing. The Rev. Dr. Dorrance was the pastor of the church, and Judge Oristus Collins, who is represented as having stood, on one occasion, between the great apostle of temperance and the devil, not to protect the apostle but to protect the devil, was the Senior Elder. My impression is that John O. Baker, Nathaniel Rutter, John Fell and Alexander Gray were also Elders. It was in this frame house that Dr. Baker, the Evangelist, preached so successfully before 1844. The pastor of the Episcopal church was Dr. Claxton, the suc-

cessor to Dr. May. The pastor of the Methodist church was the Rev. David Holmes. The Rev. John Lescher, a young man from Easton, served the German reformed churches of Newport, Hanover, Wilkes-Barre and Ransom, and gave instruction in vocal music. The Baptists may have had an organization in Wilkes-Barre, but they were without a sanctuary and without a pastor. There was a first-class school in the old Academy, taught by Mr. Samuel Strong, a graduate of Yale College. He was the successor in the academy of Horton, Owen and Sterling. Drs. Miner, Boyd, Jones and Day were the physicians of Wilkes-Barre. The lawyers with whom it was my privilege to become acquainted very soon after coming here were Mr. Hendrick Wright and his brother Harrison Wright, Henry M. Fuller, Warren Woodward, Judge Woodward, Judge Dana, Volney Maxwell, Andrew McClintock, Chester Butler and L. D. Shoemaker. Mr. Kutz sat at the bridge the receiver of tolls, and the only mistake I knew him to make was his failure to recognize me as a preacher—I had not been a preacher very long. Sharp D. Lewis was the editor and proprietor of the *Record of the Times*. Messrs. Bennett, Gildersleeve, Rutter and Flick were among the merchants. Wilkes-Barre in 1844 was a quiet agricultural village with a canal to tide water and a gravity road to White Haven. The Baltimore Coal Company under the superintendency of Mr. Gray, was the only company disposed to develop the rich coal deposit around Wilkes-Barre.

It has been often said that letters of introduction amount to but little. I did not find it so, but my letters of introduction were to ladies not to gentlemen. It may be true that letters of introduction to gentlemen amount to very little. I had in my pocket from John W. Sterling, at whose solicitation I came here, letters to Mrs. George M. Hollenback, Mrs. Chester Butler, Mrs. John L. Butler and Mrs. John Dorrance. They were all grand women and they were all helpful to me in my mission work in Lackawanna valley, but my Wilkes-Barre home was with Mrs. John L. Butler. She adopted me. Everybody loved her. I loved her as a mother.

It has been my privilege to know personally all the men who have been the pastors of this old church since 1830. The exalted position these brethren have occupied in the Presbyterian church I have referred to when addressing you on a former occasion. That your present pastor, called into this line of distinguished preachers is not unworthy of the place he occupies, and has occupied for a score of years, we may infer not only from the place he has secured in your hearts, and the hearts of his brethren, but from the fact that the eyes of one of the first Presby-

terian churches in our land have been turned wistfully towards him. Under his lead you are going out from this house that you entered with joy under the lead of Dr. Dorrance, to enter your new and beautiful temple. May the angel of the covenant go with you, and this new temple be to you the House of God and the gate of Heaven.

#### Dr. Craft, of Wyalusing, Owns It.

Some time ago a passenger on train No. 9, on the Lehigh Valley R.R., disembarked at Wyalusing, and left in his seat in the car an old book, entitled, "A defence of the Church Government, faith, worship and spirit of the Presbyterians, in answer to a late book intitled 'An Apology for Mr. Thomas Rhind, or an account of the manner how, and the reasons for which he separated from the Presbyterian Party and embraced the communion of the Church.'" The book was from the pen of John Anderson, M. A. minister of the gospel in Durnbarton, and was printed in Glasgow by Hugh Brown, in 1714. The relic was sent to the general baggage office of the Lehigh Valley R.R., at this place, and is now in the possession of A. S. Smock, baggage master at the Union Depot, who will send it to the owner. On a fly-leaf in the book is the inscription, "Presented Rev. David Craft by his friend and fellow-digger, S. Hayden, Sayre, Pa., Jan. 27, 1888." Although the book is 174 years old, it is still in an excellent state of preservation. The print is very plain and can be easily read. The leaves are yellow with age, but are intact.—*South Bethlehem Star, Feb. 2, 1888.*

#### Historical Books Wanted.

Anyone having a copy of "The Life of Moses Van Campen" for sale, can hear of a purchaser by applying at the office of the *Historical Record*, Wilkes-Barre. Please state condition and price wanted.

Rev. H. E. Hayden wants to buy a copy of "The Lost Sister of Wyoming, by Rev. J. Todd, Northampton, Mass., 1842," and "The Frontier Mail, or a Tale of Wyoming, by Joseph McCoy, 1819."

The first number of the second volume of Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries*, Harrisburg, Pa., is at hand. It is not issued at stated periods but whenever the matter accumulates to the extent of 88 pages. The matter first appears in the *Harrisburg Telegraph* as its historical column and it embraces a vast deal of interesting and valuable history.



# The Historical Record

VOL. II.

APRIL 1888.

No. 2.

## SHYLOCK DEFENDED.

### A Legal Luminary Sheds a New Light Upon the "Phantom of Fiction."

Y.M.H.A. hall was well filled Sunday, Jan. 22, by an audience gathered to listen to a lecture by Mr. Henry A. Fuller, it being the third in the course given before that society. The audience was late in assembling and was nearly 8:30 when it was announced that Mrs. Williams would first entertain the company with a selection on the piano. The lady performed her part in charming manner and was warmly applauded. Mr. Fuller was then introduced, and prefaced his lecture with a scattering volley of witticisms. He announced his subject as one of convenient ambiguity, "A Celebrated Case."

His subject proved to refer to the case of Shylock, who, he held, was a much abused individual. As a member of the Wilkes-Barre Shakespearean Society he had recently been engaged in the study of this celebrated case, and his original feeling of abhorrence had changed to one of indignation at the injustices heaped upon the unfortunate money lender. Mr. Fuller pointed out the fact that while Shakespeare had painted Shylock as a Jew he had not intended him as typical of his race, but as an extraordinary individual regardless of surroundings. The great characters of fiction are none of them natural. The stage is a world in miniature, and the concentration necessary in creating stage characters must produce distortion.

In considering this celebrated case Mr. Fuller proposed to take the part of attorney for the defendant, and drew a graphic picture of the bent and bearded figure of the sorrowing old man, bereft of wife, child and hoarded ducats; stung to the quick by his daughter's ungrateful conduct, and reviled and spit upon by the irrevrent public.

His daughter to whom he had played the part of both father and mother, leaving him for a spend thrift, taking the turquoise ring, his only memento of the lost wife, Leah. The lecturer waxed funny in following a vein of thought suggested by the name, Leah, meaning tired, and vented some rather sarcastic remarks on Jessica as the typical, flirting young woman. The treatment of the unfortunate Jew by Antonio and his fellows was declared but an exhibition of an unfortunate disposition still extant, to knock

a man into the ditch and then berate him for being down. The characters of Antonio and Bassanio were put in rather unfavorable light, one borrowing money on the strength of his future wife's fortune; the other loaning money free of interest, as spite work and to break the money market.

Mr. Fuller maintained that Shylock could not have expected the forfeiture and enforcement of his bond, at the time it was drawn. Neither Antonio nor his friend anticipated the remotest possibility of such an event, and Shylock had no gift of prophecy which foretold the evil about to befall his victim.

Shylock's bond, he declared, was no worse than the hundreds of out-throat leases being daily signed. Shylock's vengeance contained no feature of anarchy but was to be enforced by legal process. The trial scene was humorously and vigorously treated. Portia was spoken of as talking bad law and actually persuading the courts to believe it, something which modern lawyers failed to do even when they talked sense. Shylock's greatest error was in not taking his pound of flesh when awarded regardless of consequences, which could not have been more disastrous than they were.

The injustice of the judgment which robbed Shylock of his estate and divided it between his enemies was strongly made out, and the lecturer closed his remarks by a happy quotation of the last words uttered by the character he was defending.

The lecture was well received and the applause at its close was long and loud.

### A Hale Couple at Eighty-four.

In the course of a business letter to the RECORD, Dilton Yarrington writes:

CARBONDALE, March 1, 1888 — Sixty-three years ago yesterday morning I left my home in Wilkes-Barre and walked to Dundaff. Worked a year at my trade for Col. Gould Phinny; then started in business for myself. Was 21 years and 4 months old when I left home. Stopped in Dundaff 22 years and 8 months, and then moved to Carbondale April 1, 1847. Was married Dec. 23, 1837, and we both are yet enjoying very fair health. I was 84 on the 8th of October last, and my wife was 84 on the 20th of January last.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

**Proceedings at the Annual Meeting—All the Old Officers Re-elected—Some Suggestions Which Ought to Stir the Society Up.**

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 11 am. Present, Hon. E. L. Dana, Pierce Butler, Edward Welles, G. B. Kulp, Calvin Parsons, Rev. H. E. Hayden, R. Sharpe, E. S. Loop, S. Reynolds, H. H. Harvey, J. D. Coons, C. J. Long, Rev. H. L. Jones, O. B. Johnson, Dr. O. F. Ingham, Hon. Steuben Jenkins and A. H. McClintock. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted thus:

President—Hon. E. L. Dana.

Vice Presidents—Dr. O. F. Ingham, Rev. H. L. Jones, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Hon. Eekley B. Cox.

Recording Secretary—S. C. Struthers.

Corresponding Secretary—S. Reynolds.

Librarian—Hon. J. R. Wright.

Assistant Librarian—G. Mortimer Lewis.

Treasurer—A. H. McClintock.

Curators—Dr. O. F. Ingham, conchology and mineralogy; S. Reynolds, archaeology; Rev. H. E. Hayden, numismatics; R. D. Lacey, palaeontology.

Meteorologist—Hon. E. L. Dana.

Historiographer—George B. Kulp.

Trustees—Dr. Charles F. Ingham, Edward P. Darling, Ralph D. Lacey, Edward Welles, Hon. Charles A. Miner.

Judge Dana read the meteorological reports for December and January. December rain fall, 2.96 inches; average temperature 23.27 degrees. January, rain fall, 3.81 inches; average temperature 17½ degrees, 10 inches of snow during January, mercury was below zero on four days—10 below on the 23d.

George B. Kulp read biographical sketches of three members deceased during year—Major Jacob Wælder, James P. Dennis and Frederick Mercur.

The following contributed to the library or cabinet since December meeting:

C. W. Darling, Oneida Historical Society; American Philosophical Society; Dr. D. G. Brinton, Bureau of Education, Mrs. H. Browncombe, Wilkes-Barre RECORD, B. H. Pratt, Amherst College, Yale University, United States Catholic Historical Society, Commissioners of State Geological Survey, Department of Interior, Middlebury Historical Society, I. A. Stearus, G. B. Kulp, H. R. Jackson, American Geographical Society, Iowa Historical Society, Anthropological Society of Wisconsin, J. Reichard, Jr., Chicago Historical Society, Historical Society of Iowa, Bureau of Ethnology, B. D. Lacey, Astor Library, Hon. J. A. Scranton, G. M. Reynolds.

Mr. Reynolds read a report of the additions to the library and cabinet during the year and other matters of interest. Additions to the library during the last 12 months: Bound volumes, 270; pamphlets, 205; besides newspapers, maps, broadsides and a bundle of drafts and surveys. Additions to numismatic cabinet: 2 medals, 4 coins. Additions to conchological cabinet none. The receipts have been (including balance) \$1,041, and the disbursements \$894. The report was rather a plea for activity than a recital of accomplishments. Mr. Reynolds bemoaned the fact that in a learned society of over 150 members only 4 or 5 could be found who showed any interest in its active work. Credit was given Dr. Ingham and Mr. Lacey for work in the coal collection, and by Mr. Hayden in the numismatic collection, and it was hoped that others would be found willing to devote a little time each week to some cabinet or other. There is abundant material for the publication of Vol. VI of Transactions, but the failure of members to pay dues precludes the giving of the work to the printer. The last volume appeared in July, 1886. Since 1880 40 papers have been read before the society, and only one member in 13 has contributed any paper. During the last year only one paper was read. The secretary urgently recommended increasing the number of life members as a source of permanent revenue. There are now only five life members—Dr. Ingham, J. H. Swoyer, W. L. Conyngham, F. V. Bookafellow and Edward Welles. Notwithstanding present unpromising condition the society had done much meritorious work during the last eight years, and it has taken rank among kindred institutions of the land. Its library contains 5,000 volumes and as many pamphlets, and the same will be maintained separate from the Osterhout Free Library. The society is in correspondence with 77 domestic and ten foreign societies. It has furnished information to many National and State bodies, besides accomplishing satisfactory results in exploration and original research in geology, archaeology and local history. One of its publications lately served to establish the validity of a will disposing of an estate valued at \$35,000.

The local papers furnish their files, which form a valuable acquisition. The society has 265 volumes of local papers, mainly covering the period from 1810 to the present, 1833 and 1834 excepted. The more valuable are kept in a fire proof vault.

At the conclusion of the report the matter of life membership was discussed by Rev. Mr. Jones and others, and Richard Sharpe expressed his desire to become a life mem-

ber, and tendered Mr. Reynolds his check for \$100.

On motion it was resolved that a committee of three be appointed to solicit life memberships, and that 200 copies of the report of the corresponding secretary be printed for distribution.

Hon. Steuben Jenkins read a paper on "Water Fall," suggested by Gen. Dana's report of the rain fall in Wyoming Valley, which is from 38 to 40 inches annually. The paper gave some highly interesting statistics on the rain fall along the great streams of the world, and the force necessary to take this amount of water up into the atmosphere and transport it long distances to deposit it upon the earth again.

Rev. H. E. Hayden read a letter on the early discovery of coal in Pennsylvania in 1768, from William J. Buck. The letter was followed by remarks by Mr. Jenkins, Dr. Ingham and Mr. Kulp, showing that coal was known in Pennsylvania prior to that date.

#### Incident in Charles Miner's Life.

In an old memorandum left by Charles Miner occurs the following curious account of his recognition through the similarity of his voice to his brother Asher's, 50 miles from home on a dark night, by an entire stranger. He was going to Philadelphia, over the mountain, in company with Judge Hollenback and Ebenezer Bowman, Esq., when on the evening of the second day, below the Blue Mountain, he had to turn off the road "to visit Mr. Levan, our paper-maker, and pay him some money. A perfect stranger, never having seen the man in my life or been within fifty miles of the place. The darkness became so intense that I could only perceive there were buildings of some sort near, so I called out lustily: 'Hello, hello, the house. Does Mr. Levan live here?'

'Your mother was an honest woman,' was the reply in a strong German accent.

'How do you know that?'

'I know you are a Miner by your voice.'

He knew brother Asher, well-perceived the marked similarity, and yet, not identity, of the voice; and although he could not have distinguished my form from that of my horse, he knew me as Asher's brother. It has always appeared to me remarkable.

At Levan's every thing wore the appearance of comfort, and I was treated with true German hospitality. I did not overtake my company until late next day."

Perhaps the Yankee twang was strong in early days and the paper maker was looking for money from the Wyoming Miners. Are those paper mills now running below the Blue Mountain?

#### The Fugitive Stanza Identified.

EDITOR RECORD: That is a pretty selection of yours in Saturday's social column, credited to the Nanticoke *Tribune*, and entitled "Ode to Wyoming," showing that editors are men of taste, who know good things when they see them in print, even though they are not capable of originating matter for their columns. The poem of which your selection is the opening stanza, was greatly admired and highly complimented by the President of the United States and an appreciative audience of 40,000 citizens, when, as Mrs. Mary Richart's production, it was so charmingly read by Miss Essie Hopkins, at the 100th anniversary exercises of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, July 8, 1878. The entire poem is given on page 196 of the Wyoming Memorial volume, only a small number of copies of which yet remain in the hands of the secretary for distribution to the students of history and such other persons as can appreciate works of that kind. I am glad to know that the editor of the *Tribune* has access to a copy of the book to select from, as it is replete with original articles of rare literary merit; but would it not be well for him in future to give credit and not attempt to pass off even by implication as original matter that has been in print for years. W. J.

#### Ode to Wyoming.

Beauteous vale! in by-gone times  
I oft have rovd' where tuneful chimes  
Pealed merrily in distant climes—  
Yet, wheresoe'er I have sojourned,  
Or wheresoe'er my feet have turned,  
One thought on mem'ry's shrine has burned  
In all my roaming;  
This thought in many a heaving swell  
Has bound me in its magic spell  
To thee, sweet vale, beloved so well—  
Wyoming!

—Extract from Mrs. Mary B. Richart's Centennial poem.

#### A Mercantile Change.

The firm of Hillards is dissolved, their successor being Lewis Brown, who has been in the Hillard employ for over 30 years—since Oct. 5, 1857. The firm was organized in 1847 as Hillard & Mordecai, Mr. Mordecai retiring a year or two later, when the business was carried on by T. S. Hillard's father as O. B. Hillard. From 1852 to 1855 it was Hillards & Co., and for the next three years it was O. B. Hillard & Sons. Since 1858 it has been Hillards, the firm comprising T. S. Hillard and his brother, the late W. S. Hillard. Mr. Brown has been an invaluable man, and his friends unite in wishing him great success as proprietor in the house where he has been a clerk so many years. Mr. Hillard retires for the purpose of giving his undivided attention to his milling business.

**Few Indentured Apprentices Now.**

The custom of indenturing apprentices has well nigh become absolute. Probably there is not a boy in Wilkes-Barre indentured in the old-fashioned way. The Record is permitted to copy one, the indentured lad of 1859 being a present successful business man in Wilkes-Barre:

This indenture witnesseth, that William Elwood Doorn, a miner aged sixteen years, by and with the consent of his father William Doran, has put himself apprentice, and by these presents, the said William Elwood Doran doth voluntarily, and of his own free will and accord, put himself apprentice, to Thomas F. Keeler, to learn the art, trade and mystery of cabinet making, and after the manner of an apprentice, to serve him, the said Thomas F. Keeler, from the day of the date hereof, unto the eighteenth day of March, which will be in the year of the Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. During all of which term, the said apprentice his said master shall faithfully serve, his secrets keep, has lawful commands every where readily obey; he shall do no damage to his said master, nor see it done by others without giving notice thereof to his said master, he shall not contract matrimony, nor play at cards or any other unlawful game, with his own goods, or the goods of others, without license from his said master; he shall neither buy nor sell; he shall not absent himself day or night from his master's service, without this leave; nor haunt alehouses, taverns or play houses; but in all things behave as a faithful apprentice ought to do, during said term.

And the said master shall use his utmost endeavor to teach or cause to be taught or instructed, the said apprentice in the trade or mystery of cabinet making and procure and provide for him sufficient, meat, drink and lodging, fitting for an apprentice, during the said term; and shall allow him the sum of thirty dollars per annum for clothing, washing, and ironing.

And, for the true performance of all and singular, the covenants and agreements aforesaid, the said parties bind themselves each unto the other, firmly by these presents. In witness whereof, they have interchangeably set their hands and seals herunto.

Dated the eighteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

WILLIAM E. DOBON.  
WILLIAM DOBON.  
THOS. F. KEELER.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of  
WM. T. I. CHEERS.

**A Presbyterian Church Reminiscence.**

EDITOR RECORD: I was very much interested in reading the account of the vacation of the First Presbyterian Church building and the reminiscences of Calvin Parsons, especially that of the great revival under the preaching of Rev. Daniel Baker. I was a lad of 12 years at that time, attending school in Wilkes-Barre, and the wonderful scenes of the occasion are vividly impressed on my mind.

One of the peculiarities of that revival was the powerful work done among men of prominence and intellectual force. Among these were Hon. George W. Woodward, A. T. McClintock, V. L. Maxwell and William Werts, Esquires, all of whom were converted at that time. The influence of that occasion was felt far and wide in the vicinity, and to this day the memory of Rev. Mr. Baker is precious in many a household.

The building just vacated was not the one in which those meetings took place. It was the old frame church, which stood on the same ground, that was used, and which for so many years had reounded with the eloquence of a Gildersleeve, a Murray, and a Dorrance—all of blessed memory.

I am reminded, in this connection, of another noted personage—"Old Michael"—who was for many years the sexton of the church. He was also high constable and was a terror to evil doers, especially the boys, whose pranks kept that faithful officer in a continual worry. The mischievous youth of the present day would swell with envy if they could witness some of the numerous exploits of the boys of fifty years ago. To recount them would not be sufficient, for I would not believe some of them myself if I had not been a participant.

C. E. LATHROP.

Carbondale, Feb. 15, 1898.

**Almost a Centenarian.**

Mrs. Mary Yates died at her home in Yatesville, February 10, at the advanced age of 99 years. Her last birthday was on the 18th of January. She was born in Yorkshire, England, and moved to this country with her husband, Francis Yates, in 1819. In 1825 they came to Yatesville, which was named after them and which was then nothing but a wilderness, and cleared up a farm. The husband has been dead many years, but Mrs. Yates has continued to reside on the old homestead with her son, Francis. She has three other children, John Yates, who lives in Wisconsin, Mrs. Jane Jones, of Mill Creek, and Mrs. Charles Banker, of this place, and was highly respected by all who knew her. Funeral Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.—*Pittston Gazette, Saturday.*

**Mrs. Sarah Ann Reese.**

Mrs. Sarah Ann Reese, who died in Kingston on Feb. 10, was born April 4, 1810, in Kingston. She was a daughter of Joshua Pettebone. Of her the Kingston *Times* says:

Many of the older people who lived in Kingston in their early days will remember "Aunt Sally Ann" Reese, as she was familiarly known, and will shed tears of sorrow at her departure. Her family was one of the oldest in this valley, or in fact, in the United States. John Pettebone, the first of the name, came to America about 1681, and married Sarah Eggleston, of Connecticut. Several of the name still reside there. Following the family three generations we find that Noah Pettebone, who was Mrs. Reese's great-grandfather, came to Wyoming Valley in 1768, and settled on a piece of property, which he purchased, and built a log house near where the Pettebone shaft is now located. One of his sons was killed at the Wyoming Massacre, and another was killed on the Kingston flats some time after, while hauling grain.

Mrs. Reese's father married Eleanor Gay in 1806, and began housekeeping near the old homestead, where it is supposed she was born. Her husband, George Reese, died in 1878.

**Death of Francis Weiss, Sr.**

On Tuesday, Feb. 14, Francis Weiss, Sr., one of Bethlehem's most prominent and influential citizens, departed this life after a lingering illness. He was a partner in the coal trade with Richard Sharpe, of this city, and the Bethlehem *Times* thus speaks of him: The deceased was in the 69th year of his age and had been in poor health for over two years. Though in poor health his death was not expected so suddenly, and the news will be learned with the deepest regret by our people, as well as by the general public in the Lehigh Valley, where he was so well known as a coal operator and a most kindly gentleman. Mr. Weiss was one of the first coal operators in the Lehigh Valley. At the time of his death, besides being president of the Alden Coal Co., proprietor of the Lehigh Shovel Works, South Bethlehem, the Lehigh Roller Flour Mills, Freemansburg, and a large stockholder of the Bethlehem Iron Co., and greatly interested in many other flourishing industries, he was the honored president of the Lehigh Valley National Bank and a director of the Old Bangor Slate Co.

**Another Veteran Dead.**

William H. Bennett, of Plains, died on Sunday after a week's illness of pneumonia. He was born in Plains, Jan. 1, 1837, and followed the trade of blacksmithing. He leaves a wife—who is a sister of the first Mrs. Elias Robins—and five children, two daughters and three sons, all residing at home. Mr. Bennett was a veteran of the late war, a member of Co. A, 143d P. V. He enlisted as a private August 10, 1862, was promoted to corporal the same month, to sergeant in the following December, and just before being mustered out of service, June 12, 1865, he was promoted to a lieutenancy. He was a brave soldier, a good citizen, a kind and indulgent husband. He belonged to the Odd Fellows, Knights of the Mystic Chain, the Grand Army of the Republic, and was an official member of the Methodist Church. He took great interest in the annual reunions of his regiment and was treasurer of the Veterans' Association. Funeral Wednesday at 2 pm., from M. E. Church.

**A White Haven Pioneer Dead.**

[Daily Record, Feb. 25, 1888.]

Last week Mr. and Mrs. James Bowman left this city to visit friends in the Lehigh Valley, and to attend a family reunion at Allentown, given by his brother, Bishop Thomas Bowman, who changes his Episcopal residence from Allentown to Chicago.

While in Allentown, notice of the death of his Uncle Francis Weiss, one of Bethlehem's most prominent citizens, reached him. He attended the funeral services on Saturday last.

While visiting friends at Parryville, Mrs. Bowman was startled by a message calling her home by first train, saying her mother was alarmingly ill. She reached her mother's home a few hours before her death. She was ill less than three days.

Mrs. Elizabeth Torbert, mother of Mrs. Bowman, her father dying some nineteen years ago, was one of White Haven's oldest residents. One of the first settlers in the town, living in the first dwelling erected in the place. Her death removes the last old landmark, she being the only survivor of White Haven's original inhabitants. Her daughter Jennie, the wife of Rev. P. F. Eyer, of the Central Pennsylvania Conference, M. E. Church, now stationed at Shippenburg, Pa., was the first child born in White Haven, Mrs. Torbert was 78 years old.

## Cost of a Ton of Anthracite Coal.

In view of the cost of coal, as being discussed so largely at the present time, the following carefully prepared paper has been kindly furnished the Record for publication. It is not the showing of any particular colliery but is made up of averages. Our correspondent has certainly given the subject a degree of painstaking and accurate research that makes his production not only interesting but of great value. It reckons the expense of a mine producing from 490 to 500 tons of coal per day, full time of ten hours a day, 495 being used as an average.

55 Miners each 6 cars $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons each at 99 cents per car \$:326 70 less \$108 90.....	\$217 80
55 Miners' laborers $\frac{1}{2}$ of \$326 70 from the miners for loading, etc.	108 90
45 Slave pickers, young boys and old men, at 40, 50, 60, 70 cents, average 55 cents.....	24 75
3 Engineers, average per day, \$2..	6 00
5 Firemen, average per day, \$1 65	8 25
4 Pump men, average per day, \$2	8 00
2 Turning breasts for company, \$2	4 00
4 Top men and footmen for slope or shaft, \$1 50.....	6 00
8 Mule drivers, inside, average, \$1 80.....	14 40
3 Door boys, inside, 50, 75, \$1 00, average 75 cents.....	2 25
2 Counter chutes or plane inside, ticket boys and footman, \$1 80..	3 80
8 Driving gangways and dogholes, contract, average \$1 80.....	14 40
3 Carpenters inside for tracks, brattice, chutes, doors, &c., \$2 20.....	6 60
3 Carpenters inside, helpers, for tracks, brattice, chutes, doors, &c. \$1 80.....	5 40
6 tunnel men with bosses (contract) average estimate, \$2 00.....	12 00
2 Outside and inside superintendents (salaries) \$3 00.....	6 00
1 Driver boss, car boss, inside, \$2 00	2 00
1 Inside stable boss, \$1 50.....	1 50
2 Fire bosses (to see fire damp all out before men enter) \$2.25.....	4 50
1 Breaker boss, \$2 50.....	2 50
1 Blacksmith and sometimes a helper, \$2 00.....	2 00
1 Night watchman, \$1.50.....	1 50
2 Carpenters outside (sometimes 3, 4, 5) car builders, &c., \$2.00.....	4 00
4 Attending rollers and screens in breaker, \$1.50.....	6 00
1 Ticket boss on "tip" of breaker, \$2.25.....	2 25
3 Slaters on platform below tip, average, \$1 57.....	4 71
2 On tip with ticket boss, \$1.40.....	2 80
1 Sprag boy and oiler, \$1.00.....	1 00

3 Mule drivers, outside, \$1.00, \$1.00 and \$1.50.....	3 50
1 On dirt dump (sometimes 2 and more), \$1 50.....	1 50
2 On ashes dump, and other waste at openings, \$1 25.....	2 50
1 Supplying pea coal, or dust, to firemen, \$1 25.....	1 25
2 Loading railroad cars at foot of breaker, \$1 50.....	3 00
1 Mason (sometimes 2), \$2 25....	2 25
1 Outside stable boss and teamster, \$1 50.....	1 50
1 Bookkeeper, (salary) say \$2 50..	2 50

240 employees, whose daily wages amount to..... \$501 85

According to the report of the State Inspector of Mines in this region, the men or mines worked an average of 209 days in 1886.

Proportional addition for men that worked 365 days, and for salaries for the year:

4 Pumpmen 156 days additional at \$2.....	\$5 92
2 Fireman 156 days additional at \$1.50.....	2 28
2 Stable bosses 156 days additional \$1.50.....	2 28
2 At pea coal for fires 156 days at \$1.50.....	2 28
2 Superintendents 108 days additional at \$3.....	2 85
1 Night watchman 156 days additional at \$1.50.....	1 11
1 Bookkeeper 108 days additional at \$2 50.....	1 28
15 Mules and horses 156 days additional at 25 cents per day \$3 75	2 98

Making \$20.86, which added to \$501.85 above, makes..... \$522 71  
Wages paid to employes in the production of 495 tons of coal each day equals 495)522 71(\$1 05 00-100 per ton delivered into the cars at the foot of the breaker.

Other expenses at the mine estimated per day:

Iron rails, spikes and ties in gangways and tunnels.....	\$2 50
55 breasts or chambers have 17 props per day at 30 cents each...	5 10
Props set by company 8 per day at 50 cents each.....	4 00
Fodder and feed for 15 mules and horses at 25 cents each.....	3 75
Iron used by blacksmith, and horse and mule shoes and nails.....	2 00
Lumber used in breasts, chutes, brattices, boxes, doors, etc., 200 feet.....	2 80
Lumber, oak for cars, patching, etc., 200 feet at \$28 per thousand	5 60
Lumber for patching breaker and other buildings outside.....	1 50

New mules, horses, wagons, cars, carwheels, axles, etc., to replace old .....	2 00
Wear and loss of company tools, shovels, picks, rakes, crowbars, axes, saws, hammers, sledges, adzes, augers, wrenches, etc.,....	1 00
Oil, tallow, packing, lamps, wicks, cans, torches, ropes, wire rope, chains, screws, nuts, belts, rivets, bolts, screwjacks, wheelbarrows, nails, spikes.....	4 00
Repairs of engines of breakers, slope or shaft, pumps and fans	1 00
New pumps, pipes, rollers, bars, screws, belts, rails.....	5 00
Blank books, paper, ink, pens, pay-rolls, wagebills, envelopes, pay-envelopes, letter envelopes and postage, telegraphing, telephon-ing, car fares.....	1 50
Loss by bad debts, stealings, re-jected coal, waste on the way, one per cent on 496 tons at \$3.26 f. o. b. at Jersey City, Porth Amboy, etc.,.....	16 12
Royalty, (15 to 37) an average of 25 cents per ton on 496 tons.....	128 75
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$181 62</b>
The expenses as above on 496 tons per day equal 496)181.62(.85 69 100 cents per ton.	
There are still other expenses—the original plant—which will be entirely worn out and valueless at the end of twenty-five years on an average, though nearly every part of it has been renewed over and over during that time, and is accounted for above.	
Estimated at a low figure—or rather this is a cheap one:	
Slope or shaft sinking, and pre-paring 400 feet deep.....\$	10,000 00
Tunnel to one or two other beds of coal over and underlying	2,400 00
Iron rails, ties, tracklaying, spikes, &c.....	75 00
Road to top of breakers, say 300 or 400 feet, and track....	450 00
Breaker, engines, rollers, screens, bars, boilers, stacks, flues.....	15,000 00
Engine house to slope or shaft, boiler house, fan house, car-pentershop, blacksmith shop, lumber sheds.....	4,850 00
Reservoir for water, tanks, pipes, trenching and troughs.....	1,000 00
Slope or shaft engine, \$1,600 pipes, drums, sheaves, setting same @ \$400 .....	2,000 00
Fans, fan engine, steam pipes, and airways.....	1,500 00
Pumps with 12 inch pipe from bottom, 400 feet, 4 inch steam pipe, 400 feet, .....	2,000 00

Boilers, 12 for slope, shaft, pumps, ans, with setting, stacks, flues.....	2,000 00
Air hole and second openings, brattices, flues.....	700 00
Stables, cutting boxes, chop boxes, buckets, troughs, forks, scoops, rakes, &c.....	3,000 00
Mules and horses 15, harness, wagons, chains, whiffletrees, clevises.....	2,450 00
Mine cars 65, dirt cars 2, ashes cars 2, couplings, etc..	1,750 00
Tracks, iron, and ties to dirt bank, ashes bank and waste bank .....	400 00
Oil house, supply house, pow-der house.....	800 00
Company tools, shovels, picks, crowbars, sledges, hammers, axes, adzes, saws, jacks, grub-bers, buttes, wedges, rakes, wheelbarrows, wrenches....	800 00
Carpenters' tools and black-smiths' tools, belonging to the company.....	500 00
Grading sidings to the breaker from railroad $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, with switches, etc.....	5,000 00
Office and furniture.....	1,500 00
Dwelling houses for outside and inside superintendent.....	3,000 00
House for bookkeeper—dwell-ing near office.....	1,000 00
Grading wagon roads to office, breaker, engine houses, pow-der house, supply store, dwellings, foot of breaker....	500 00
Ditches, trenches, pipes and culverts, to carry of mine and surface water.....	500 00
(And innumerable more things that cost but cannot be cal-culated).	
Original cost of mine (exclud-ing coal lands) prepared in the cheapest manner to be-gin mining and shipping coal to market,.....	\$62,875 00
Add interest at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for 25 years, on 62,875 00,..	89,171 75
Divided by 25 years gives cost on plant per year.....	4,078 87
Add interest at 5 per cent on -20,000, active capital,.....	1,000 00
Add taxes on 150 acres land, with buildings, mules, horses, etc., at a valuation of \$22,-500, .....	866 25
Insurance, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on \$16,000.00,.....	240 00
<b>Total, .....</b>	<b>\$6180 12</b>

Divide by the actual number of days worked in the Wyoming region gives the cost per day, 206)6180.12(\$29.57,  
 Dividing 29.57 by 495 tons per day gives per ton (nearly),..... 06  
 Total thus: Labor expenses per ton, \$1.05 60-100, other expenses per ton 86 69-100, plant expenses per ton 05 97-100, a fraction over..... 1 48

Total cost of a ton of coal at the mines, at the cheapest rate it can be produced in any case, where there are never any accidents, (an impossibility,) may be one dollar and 48 26-100 cents,..... 1.48 26-100

This is the *least* possible cost. There are always more men than the number needed, to provide for sickness, death, and other absences and accidents as are sure to occur among the numbers of men about the mines. They are on a constant come and go from mine to mine. The most of them never stay a year at one place.

There are faults to be met with in every vein of coal worked in all mines, costing frequently many hundred dollars to drive a tunnel through, but it seems almost an impossibility to estimate an average cost per ton for such obstructions.

Explosions of "fire damp" are of frequent occurrence, and the consequent destruction of the inside timbering, brattices, doors, cars, mules, men and machinery, and in many cases setting fire to the woodwork—props, chutes, brattices, doors, cars, stables, and consequently of the dirt or coal dust, and coal, loose and also in the solid bed inside the mine; and the expenditure of thousands of dollars to pump water into the mine until it is full to the top and the fire put out, and then to pump it out again and renew all the machinery inside of the mine over again. This also it is hardly possible to estimate on an average for all the coal mined in the district, but it costs immensely.

In the above statement there are no salaries allowed for the officers of the companies, or proprietors and operators, and no profits.

After the coal gets to New York or Jersey City, Perth Amboy, etc., there are office expenses and salaries in New York (and in Philadelphia, if any of our coal is sent there, and in Boston perhaps and in other cities) paid by the large companies; and agents' commissions by the smaller companies and individual operators. These commissions are from 15 to 20 cts. per ton, say 18.

The writer knows nothing about freight except as reported by the public prints. There it is reported:

Freight from the Wyoming region to Jersey City in 1886-7 \$1 80  
 Freight from the Wyoming region reported later in 1887 to Jersey City by L. V. RR..... 1 70  
 Add the cost heretofore found to this ..... 1.48 26-100

Total cost in Jersey City and Perth Amboy..... 3.86 26-100

This is the amount paid by the producers of coal in the cheapest constructed workings in the Wyoming region in 1886 and 1887 so far, previous to the strike in the Lehigh region for September, to put a ton of 2240 pounds on board of barges at Jersey City and Perth Amboy for New York or other cities. This was the cost, freight paid weekly by the producer, \$3.86 26-100.

What did the producers receive in return for it? Again the writer is compelled to have recourse to the public prints. Here are reports quoted from the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, of New York, in 1886. "We quote ordinary free-burning coals, f. o. b., as follows:

Week ending	July 9.	Dec 3,
Lump.....	\$3 00	3 40
Steamboat.....	3 00	3 40
Broken .....	2 85@3 00	3 30
Egg.....	2 85@3 00	3 65
Stove.....	3 10@3 25	3 80@4 10
Chestnut.....	2 75@3 00	3 50
Pea.....	1 75@2 00	2 10@2 25
Buckwheat.....	1 50@1 70	1 60

From Seward's *Coal Trade Journal*, Sep. 19, 1887, price of anthracite f. o. b. in New York:

Lump.....	\$3 40	Egg	\$3 70
Pea.....	3 00	Steamboat	3 40
Stove.....	4 10	Buckwheat	2 15
Broken.....	3 50	Chestnut..	3 85
Dust.....	1 75		

Until late in 1887, the pea, buckwheat and dust, or dirt, did not sell for sufficient to pay the freight from this region, and none was sent to market, but had to be thrown upon the dirt bank, except what was used under the operators' own boilers. Now, whatever the operators can get for their coal in addition to the cost delivered on barges in Jersey City, etc., will be their profit.

The cost from there to the consumers' bins, and the size of the tons, I have no means of knowing.

There is one item to reduce the cost of production, but of this I have taken no account, not knowing the figures, namely the profits accruing to the company from the sale of powder and other supplies to its men.



LAST YEAR'S MINING.

Official Figures as to the Quality of Coal Dug, and Its Cost in Human Life and Labor.

Mine Inspector Williams finished, on Feb. 18, his annual report of coal mining operations in the Third Anthracite District for 1887. From the figures which he has collected, and some of which are given below, we find that the total quantity of coal mined was 7,540,754 tons, as compared with 6,985,315 in 1886, or an increase of 605,489 tons. The number of persons seriously injured was 295, or one for every 25,561 tons mined. The number of fatalities was 65, or one for every 116,011 tons mined. The number of widows resulting was 83, and of orphans, 120. Six were killed by explosions of gas, and 41 seriously injured; by falls of roof or coal 27 were killed, and 89 injured; by the cars 11 were killed and 87 injured; by explosions of powder 3 were killed and 23 wounded; by miscellaneous causes 18 were killed and 42 wounded. Besides these, 71 were slightly injured and disabled for but a few days. The increase of fatalities over last year was 7.

KINGSTON COAL CO.			
No's 1 and 4 Shafts.	249,762	224	594
No's 2 and 3 Shafts.	371,559	240	700
Gaylord, Plymouth.	248,276	185	532
Total.....	869,598	*219	1,826

MISCELLANEOUS COAL COMPANIES.			
Alden.....	263,073	261	636
Avondale.....	172,589	201	455
Woodward.....	4,404	.....	111
Dodson.....	154,041	185	309
Dorrance.....	51,350	245	186
East End.....	.....	.....	.....
West End.....	172,259	264	323
Franklin.....	169,336	245	505
Hillman Vein.....	97,417	247	327
Maffet.....	136,658	206	300
Parrish.....	187,957	162	617
Red Ash No. 1.....	145,781	194	306
Red Ash No. 2.....	177,712	207	365
Warrior Run.....	92,388	202	290
Total.....	1,825,329	*218	4,841

RECAPITULATION.			
L. & W-B. C. Co.....	2,178,150	205	6,114
D. & H. C. Co.....	1,103,148	193	2,875
Susq. Coal Co.....	1,561,530	231	4,438
Kingston Coal Co.,	869,598	219	1,826
Miscellaneous Coal Co's	1,825,329	218	4,841
Total.....	7,540,754	*214	20,154

\* Average.

LEHIGH AND WILKES-BARRE COAL CO.

	Tons of Coal Mined.	Days Worked.	Persons Empl'd
Diamond.....	84,525	195	247
Hollenbeck.....	254,565	319	578
Empire.....	249,373	188	311
Hartford or Jersey..	123,118	185	478
Stanton.....	273,472	221	353
Sugar Notch Shaft..	184,639	208	620
Lance or No. 11.....	193,638	210	560
Nottingham.....	498,014	207	1,107
Reynolds.....	149,630	203	533
Wanamie.....	151,051	208	506
South Wilkes-Barre	5,369	No breaker	21
Total.....	2,178,150	*205	6,114

DELAWARE & HUDSON CANAL CO.

Baltimore Slope } ..	69,645	197	263
Baltimore Shaft } ..	.....	.....	.....
Baltimore Tunnel..	182,854	222	374
Conyngnam.....	84,656	196	259
Boston.....	40,209	50	322
No. 2.....	177,307	213	443
No. 3.....	223,939	234	429
No. 4.....	173,801	215	362
No. 5.....	208,732	217	423
Total.....	1,103,148	*193	2,875

SUBQUEHANNA COAL CO.

Breaker No. 1.....	188,458	242	431
Breaker No. 2.....	460,403	246	1,474
Grand Tunnel.....	117,885	195	310
Breaker No. 5.....	514,805	246	1,104
Breaker No. 6.....	279,982	228	1,119
Total.....	1,561,530	*231	4,438

Letter from a Former Wilkes-Barrean.

WAVERLY, Pa., Feb. 17, 1888.—EDITOR RECORD: Forty years ago Wilkes-Barre was a staid old borough, and the only borough in Luzerne County, but now boroughs are the order of the day. I spent a number of years in business in Wilkes-Barre, which were the happiest and pleasantest of my life, and I have a great affection for the old Borough of Wilkes-Barre. Necessity compelled me to leave at that time, as the fever and ague prevailed to an alarming extent and got a fast grip on me, and I concluded to remove to Abington, now Waverly Borough, as an experiment, by the advice of my old family physician, Dr. T. W. Miner. He called to see me the morning I left and prepared me medicine to take on the journey, and as I got into my carriage the good doctor consoled me by saying: "John, you are going to Abington; you will live but a little while; I will write your obituary." But I still live. Since I left there have been great changes and extensive improvements until you have become a great city. I used to know everybody, but now when I visit Wilkes-Barre I meet very few of my dear old friends and associates.

I think there is but one man doing business on what we used to call Public Square that was in business when I left, and that is my old friend Marx Long; the rest have disappeared, probably most of them dead.

When I look around I find whole families dead, and in some cases the names of some prominent families have become extinct.

I can name the families of blessed memory of which there are very few descendants: The Hollenback, Butler, Ross, Bowman, Beaumont, Coot, Siocum, Dana, Miner, Wood, Collings, Sinton, Tracy, Drake, and scores of others I could mention just as worthy; and when contemplating these facts I am led to exclaim "Our Fathers, where are they."

I am now in my 78th year and enjoying tolerable health. J. G. FILL.

#### A Wilkes-Barre Abolitionist.

The following sketch of the late William C. Gildersleeve was read at the recent anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the writer being Miss Narria Wedlock:

Mr. William C. Gildersleeve was born in Midway, Liberty County, Georgia, in 1795. His father was a slave holder. He believed he knew all about the institution of slavery from personal observation. He had seen men, women and children bought and sold in front of his father's church, as cattle are bought and sold. He left Georgia when a young man, married in New Jersey and settled in Wilkes Barre as a merchant about 1821. He was known in this part of the State as an uncompromising anti-slavery man. In his house the slaves fleeing from the South towards Canada found a shelter and substantial help. The result was he became the target for pro-slavery men of all parties. He was branded as a black abolitionist, and as such he was known to slave holders who frequently visited Wilkes-Barre in pursuit of their property. The men and women of the present generation can scarcely understand the earnest and bitter feeling engendered by the discussion of the subject of slavery at that time. The riding of a quiet, law abiding citizen on a rail for daring to speak his views on the subject was considered comparatively a small matter.

In January of 1837 the Rev. John Cross visited Wilkes Barre and spent the Sabbath. He was entertained by the family of Mr. Gildersleeve. On Monday succeeding the Sabbath it was proposed that he should lecture in the court house, but the commissioners refused to give the court house for an anti-slavery lecture. Refused access to any of the churches, denied the use of any of the common places of holding public meetings, Mr. Gildersleeve opened his own dwelling for the discussion of the great and important question of slavery. While Mr.

Cross was speaking to a few of the neighbors and friends who had gathered to hear him a mob surrounded the house and pressed their way into the room where Mr. Cross was speaking, and threatened him with violence if he did not at once desist. They also attempted to exact from him a pledge that he would leave town inside of two hours. Baffled in all their efforts to procure such a pledge, and finding that nothing could be effected unless they proceeded to open violence, they at length withdrew, manifesting their patriotism by the destruction of gates, fences, shrubbery, etc. Even the pictures on the walls of Mr. Gildersleeve's parlor that were offensive to them they tore down and trampled under foot.

The mobbing of Mr. Gildersleeve took place in the spring of 1839. The cause of this riot was an attempt on the part of Mr. Burleigh (who was a prominent abolitionist and anti-slavery lecturer) to address the people of Wilkes-Barre on the subject of slavery. Mr. Gildersleeve entertained him at his house and attempted to protect him. The rioters surrounded Mr. Gildersleeve's house, forced open the doors and were determined to get their hands on Mr. Burleigh, but he made his escape to the house of Mr. Dana, an abolitionist, in the southern part of the town, intending as soon as possible to leave town. It was in the days of stages and the only stage office here was at the Gilchrist hotel on River Street. In this hotel Mr. Burleigh found shelter until the stage started. In the meantime preparations were being made to punish Mr. Gildersleeve. He received a message that Mr. Burleigh wished to see him at the hotel. As soon as he arrived at the hotel the rioters seized him, and having procured a pail of black dye they dashed a portion of it into his face. They then took him and placed him on a rail and carried him about forty rods to their headquarters. The mob was there interrupted by his daughter who clung to him with a tenacity which evinced her resolutions to rescue or suffer with him. About this time a man of influence in the place interfered, so he escaped without any serious injuries to his person.

This is only one of the many incidents that Mr. Gildersleeve suffered in behalf of the colored race. He made no secret of his intense hostility to slavery in all its forms. Everybody knew him to be an abolitionist of the strictest sect. He not only tried to free the colored race, but he organized a Sabbath school in which he took a most active part, that they might be educated and have their minds developed. In fact he was a great friend to the colored race, a friend that should be highly appreciated and his kindness never forgotten. He died in Wilkes-Barre Oct. 7, 1871.

## THE MEADS OF WYOMING.

In Reply to an Inquiry of the Record,  
Hon. Steuben Jenkins Furnishes Some  
Highly Interesting Local History.

Mr. A. J. McCall, of Bath, N. Y., is an industrious collector of local history, and in the course of some correspondence with the *Historical Record*, he writes, under date of Jan. 14, 1888:

. . . You are aware that the first settlers in this (Steuben) County were from Wyoming or below. Samuel Harris, the first white man within its limits was a son of John, of Harrisburg; Eli Mead was a Justice of the Peace of Wyoming in 1784, and an uncle of Lieut. David Mead, famous in your history. (By the way, I have his genealogy, which I will send you if desired.) I have been very anxious to learn something of the early history of Eli Mead, but have not succeeded. He had a son Eldad, who married a Jerusha Cooper, of Wyoming, and was a resident of Painted Post. I knew them both when a boy, and have heard her tell of her hair breadth escape from the savages, but was too young to fully appreciate them. Some of our old residents say she was herself part Indian. That I did not know. I remember she was an ignorant, but estimable old lady. Perhaps you may be able to furnish me some facts with regard to the Mead family.

Following the above named came a whole colony from Wyoming in 1790, the Stephens, Bennetts, Jamesons, Crosbys, Harbuts, Van Campen and Rev Gray. I knew most of them. Their descendants reside in the Canioteo Valley. I have always been greatly interested in Pennsylvania history, being in part a Pennamite, my mother, with her step father, Benjamin Patterson, having emigrated from Northumberland in 1797 to Painted Post by way of the Susquehanna River.

I am greatly pleased with your *Historical Record* and hope you will continue it. Whenever I find anything of interest to your locality I shall not fail to send it to you.

A. J. McCALL.

Having referred the Mead inquiry to Hon. Steuben Jenkins, for elucidation that gentleman kindly furnishes the following data, which will only not interest Mr. McCall, but the readers of the RECORD as well:

WYOMING, Feb. 4, 1888.—The first I find in Wyoming history in reference to Eli Mead is contained in the following item:

"Disputed claim before Penn'a Commissioners, 1803, under act of 1799.

PETER HARRIS, } *Exeter Township*:  
vs. } Deposition of Eli Mead  
BENJAMIN JONES. } on interrogations.

Question 1. Was you in possession of the tract of land called "Quilltemunck," situate in the Township of Exeter?

Answer. I was the first possessor of said land in 1770 or 1771, and I entered by virtue of a written permission of Major Durkee, or Zebulon Butler, the Committee. I conveyed my right to Benjamin Jones. ELI MEAD.

Sworn 26 May, 1803, before me,  
JOHN KNOX, J. P.,

Steuben Co., N. Y."

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, July 14, 1786.—Eli Mead, Esq., was appointed and commissioned a Justice of the Peace for the district of Wyoming and County of Northumberland, upon a return made according to law. Mr. Mead was also appointed and commissioned a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for the County aforesaid.

## EBENEZER MEAD.

Ebenezer Mead was an original proprietor of a lot of land containing 116 acres in Exeter Township.

Before the Pennsylvania Commissioners in 1803 he claimed other lands, to wit:

Exeter Township. Submission 728. Oath filed. Certificate of Zebulon Butler, one of the committee to admit proprietors that in consideration of £12, 0, 0, Nicholas Phillips is entitled to one whole right in the Susquehanna purchase, on the Susquehanna River. Dated 14 May, 1770.

Deed, 17 September, 1772, Nicholas Phillips to Philip Wintermote, 116 acres land in Exeter (afterwards the battle ground).

Deposition of Amos Wilcox that Leonard Wintermote had a power of attorney from the heirs of Philip Wintermote or such other writing as invested their right in their lands in Wyoming, in the said Leonard.

Certificate of Ebenezer Mead filed that he hath lost the power of attorney from the heirs of Philip Wintermote to Leonard Wintermote.

Deed, 14 April, 1804, Leonard Wintermote to E. Mead for all that certain piece or parcel of land now occupied by Col. John Jenkins, containing about 350 acres, by virtue of the said letter of attorney, and all my right and title to any lands in the said County of Luzerne.

## DAVID MEAD

David Mead was in Wyoming as early as 1769, and in 1770 surveyed and laid out the Township of Wilkes-Barre, and in his talk and conduct seemed to be in harmony with the settlers, and as he was a Connecticut settler it was not doubted but that he was true to the cause of the settlers. During the Revolutionary War he removed to near Fort Augusta, as a place of greater security where undergoing a change of opinions, or principles, he made up his mind to take part with the Pennsylvania land sharks against

his old Wyoming neighbors. When the Pennamites, through bad faith, and by force drove the settlers from the valley in 1783, and usurped jurisdiction, they proceeded at once to fill the valley with a turbulent crowd of followers, who drove the families of the settlers from their homes, took possession of their houses and gathered their crops. The justices newly appointed by the Tinker tyrant, Alexander Patterson, were particularly active in the work.

David Mead, one of these justices, being sometime engaged in removing from Sunbury to Wilkes-Barre to assume the duties of his office, was not able to participate to any great extent in this nefarious work, but still he claimed and obtained a due reward for such services as he did render.

He took ten of the farms of the expelled settlers as his share of the booty, many of which were the property and homes of widows and orphans, whose husbands and fathers had fallen in the terrible massacre of the 3d of July, 1778. They did not, however, long enjoy the reward of their iniquity. Their work of expelling the inhabitants was completed in the latter part of September and in October, 1783, and on the 6th of August, 1784, these same settlers had recovered possession of their homes and were rejoicing in the fruits of their victory.

On the 30th of March, 1785, Mead wrote to Pres. Dickinson:

"If it is possible to suppose the want of energy in Pennsylvania is such as not to support its dignity, I must beg for immediate information to remove from a state of anarchy."

Soon after this he left Wyoming and removed to the western part of the State, and he founded and settled the present beautiful and flourishing City of Meadville.

The conduct of David Mead, as compared with that of the cruel and unjust Patterson, not only seemed to have been, but was marked by forbearance, and often by kindness, to which the settlers often appealed when oppressed or in distress, and he generally, when possible, yielded his good offices in their favor.

Tall, slender, bent a little forward, mild in countenance, grave in deportment, Justice Meade was calculated under other circumstances to have been a favorite. But his betrayal of the Yankee cause, by becoming one of Patterson's justices, and possessing lands under the Pennamite Claim, caused him to be looked upon as a renegade, a traitor and a spy.

"Rising one morning, Mead saw a dozen men mowing his meadow. He ordered them to desist. They laughed at him. He had a warrant issued for their arrest, and then went to talk with them, when Mason F.

Alden said to him: 'Squire Mead it is you or us. Pennamites and Yankees cannot live together at Wyoming. Our lines don't agree. We give you fair notice to quit and that shortly.' He quit."

The history of Esquire Mead from the time he left Wyoming and commenced his settlement at Meadville belongs to that locality, but I may say before leaving the subject that his career in that locality was a highly honorable and successful one, marked by those traits of character which so highly distinguish him from his cruel and relentless coadjutors at Wyoming. He was a nephew of Eli Mead, Esq., who about 1790 removed to the neighborhood of Bath, Steuben County, N. Y.

I would like very much to have the genealogy and history of this family, because of its connection with the early history of Wyoming.  
STUBBEN JENKINS.

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#### An Early Philadelphia Paper.

Dr. C. S. Beck has a copy of the *United States Gazette*, dated Philadelphia December 18, 1813. It is not much larger than a sheet of foolscap paper. Much of the contained matter has reference to the war with Great Britain. There is a proclamation of the British Admiral declaring the ports along the Atlantic seaboard "to be in a state of strict and rigorous blockade." Perry's victory on Lake Erie is mentioned. One hundred dollars reward is offered in the advertisements, for a runaway slave. The man who makes bad manuscript is not modern as shown by this editorial remark: "The editor attempted to make English of the communication upon the conquest of Mexico, but found the task to be impracticable. We are heartily disposed to promote the object which the writer had in view, but any future communication will be rejected unless prepared with greater accuracy for the press."

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#### An Ancient State Map.

John H. Brown has a well preserved map of Pennsylvania which belonged to his father, James, Brown, bearing date 1792. It is about 3x4 feet, well executed, and backed with heavy cloth for folding and packing in a case. The map represents Luzerne County extending to the York State line, and Northampton and Northumberland covering most of the remainder of the northern and eastern portions of the State. Pittston is not shown on the map, nor Towanda, and not even Harrisburg. The site of the latter city is marked "Harris." This interesting document would be a valuable contribution to a historical society.—*Pittston Gazette*.

## FOOTRACING IN 1836.

**A Wilkes-Barre Youth, Now a Man Aged 75 Years, who was the Champion Foot-racer Along the Susquehanna.**

John Meginess, of Larksville, now 75 years of age, was a famous winner of foot races along the Susquehanna half a century ago. Some of his adventures are thus related by him:

In the spring of 1836 Mr. Meginess made an eventful voyage down the Susquehanna for the Baltimore Coal Co., after the building of the Wilkes-Barre scutes, boat sheds, wharves, cars, etc., had been completed, and things were ready for the shipping of coal. A large quantity of lumber was left over, which, by the order of Supt. Alexander Gray, was put in a number of small scows which were lashed together and towed down the canal to the outlet of Solomon's Creek, and thence on by the Susquehanna River to Port Deposit. Prior to the start a match was made for a footrace for \$15 and the drinks, distance 50 yards, and it took place on the Wilkes-Barre bridge, between a man who worked in the woolen mills at old Laurel Run (now Parsons,) and Meginess, which was in favor of the Wilkes-Barre boy. Steele's red tavern on Public Square, was resorted to. Meginess' reputation as a runner was spoken of throughout the valley, and traveled down the river ahead of the scows on which Meginess was to embark on the morrow for Port Deposit. At Shamokin Dam a York State Yankee raftman, who was a runner of note and had beaten all comers among the river crews, and those that lived in towns along the route was anxious for a tussel with Meginess of Wilkes-Barre. Bill Poland, of Wyoming, who was pilot of the scows from Wilkes-Barre said, "you are a smart pony, but I have one here that will run against anything you have for \$50." The money was forthwith staked, and the race took place that day, which was again favorable to Meginess, who took time in the race to look back to see the slim Yank yards behind him. Over \$200 exchanged hands at the race besides the stakes. Wilkes-Barre sports were now jubilant, and the making of racing events for their little home favorite was the only topic of conversation. Port Deposit was safely reached without anything eventful taking place.

Upon the return journey several races were made, one with the landlord of a well-known hostelry at Halifax, who had heard of Meginess' fame. The wager was made for \$50 and the race was run, the Wilkes-Barre boy leaving the hotel keeper behind by three feet. The \$50 was paid, and the landlord threw in the breakfast and treats.

Nothing further took place until the packet arrived at Danville. They repaired to Dean's tavern, and after a little refreshment the Wilkes-Barre boys wanted to know whether there were any men around who followed foot racing. They received a reply in the affirmative. The Danville sprinter, an iron worker named Lee, was sent for and a match for \$50 a -side forthwith arranged. The race took place on the Danville bridge and Meginess was the winner by five feet. About 500 people were crowded on the bridge to witness the race.

Upon arrival in Wilkes-Barre Meginess had enjoyed the trip, and had won \$200 and an overcoat.

In a few weeks Supt. Gray sent them down again to Columbia, and on the journey downward they were confronted by Lee, who wanted a return race, that he might have an opportunity of winning his money back. The race was for the second time in favor of young Meginess, who was then triumphantly carried through the bridge by the immense crowd that filled the long structure.

## "As Drunk as a Goat."

Among the many strikingly appropriate expressions in common phrase perhaps none is more forcible than the above. At least the writer now thinks so when he recalls to mind a little incident that occurred when he was but a child, in the early period of the late "war between the States." The scene of the occurrence was Jeddo, a small mining village in Lower Luzerne, near Hazleton the centre of the present strike of the Lehigh miners, rather the Knights of Labor. It was about '62, when Uncle Abe having called for more men and the drafts were being enforced, that it became necessary to station a company of troops at this point—There were various other camps at the different villages where it was expected that active resistive measures would be resorted to. These "sogers," as they were called by the miners, were from the "Empire State" and were not here under strict military discipline nor given to an over observance of dress parade, but were a lot of "hail fellows well met." Not a few, too, had a deep love for the ardent then (and perhaps also now) known in common parlance as "sixty rod stuff," "Jersey lightning" and "four fingers deep," (when reference was had to quantity), and to "Brian's Hotel," near the company store at "Pink Ash," they would wend their way for that which they craved. Canteens filled with (fire) water were the rule and not the exception. However, they were not known to unbecomingly (in the general acceptation of the term) indulge their appetites. The parents of the writer had a goat, "Betty" by name. Before the militia arrived she was of a staid

goatly disposition and never was found indulging in pranks so common to her kind. It was soon observed that she kept later hours and upon her return home would cause no little surprise by her strange and novel actions—a regular dance upon two rear feet, chattering rapidly as a magpie, in the meanwhile alternating her upright position by occasional falls and seeming to try and keep time with an imaginary life. This would continue until she became exhausted—"warmed up"—when she would drop down in a stupor, overcome. She was *drunk!*

For some weeks she carried on in this manner and was looked up for a week to break her of the habits acquired. But no sooner was she liberated than she adjourned to the headquarters of "the boys in blue" (several blocks distant) and was immediately welcomed and "treated" by her strange associates, who were hilariously happy when she put in an appearance. Several times was she sent to the guardhouse (her pen) by her owner, but all of no avail. The habit had become as strong in its hold upon her as it often does upon the human species. She would drink.

When the "sogers" had been removed and and her supply of intoxicants was thus cut off she led a strictly temperate life; but the sobriquet she had earned ("Drunken Betsy") followed her to the last.

Drifton, Feb. 2, 1838.

W. D. K.

#### Curious History of the Revolution.

Mr. C. F. Hill, of Hasleton, has in his possession a curious history of the Revolutionary War. It is written in Scriptural style, the author thinking this would fit it as a text book for school use. It bears date of 1793, and was written therefore when the events were fresh in mind. Its imprint is that of Jones, Hoff & Derrich, Philadelphia. The name of the author does not appear, but the preface is dated from "Newton, Gloucester County, in the State of New Jersey, September 17th, 1793." It is in two volumes, of 226 pages each.

#### The Oldest Methodist in Town.

Rev. W. W. Loomis was booked for an address before the Wyoming District Methodist Episcopal Ministerial Association last week in session at Forty Fort, on The Early History of Methodism in Wilkes Barre, but he did not prepare the address, the appointment having been made without his knowledge or consent. Mr. Loomis would be the right man to prepare such an address, as he is the oldest living member of the Franklin Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He has lived in Wilkes-Barre since 1827.

#### WYOMING SOLDIERY IN 1793.

Return of Militia Officers for Three Regiments—A Time When the Western Whisky Insurrection Tried Men's Souls.  
[Contributed by the State Librarian.]

The following "return," in the neat handwriting of Jesse Fell, was found among the Trimble papers some fourteen years ago, and fearing some mishap may come over the original, I have concluded to send a transcript to the Record for publication, and the original to the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. The ancestors of many prominent families are represented among these soldier boys of the long ago, at a time, too, when measures were taken looking to the formation by the U. S. Government of a Provincial Army. It was, too, on the eve of the so-called "Whisky Insurrection," when it was at one time thought that a portion of this military force would be called into service. No doubt the document will interest many, who will take pride in the valor of their forefathers, many of whom were heroes of the war for independence, and shared the privations and exposure incident to the watch against the Indian and Tory forays from the northward.

W. H. EGLE.

#### FIRST REGIMENT.

John Franklin, lieutenant colonel.

Oliver Dodge, first major.

Elisha Satterlie, second major.

First Company—Elisha Matthews, captain; Benedict Satterlie, lieutenant; Stephen Badcock, [Badcock,] ensign.

Second Company—Stephen Strickland, captain.

Third Company—Ira Stevens, captain; John Sheppard, lieutenant; Alpheus Harris, ensign.

Fourth Company—Amasa Wells, captain; Minor York, lieutenant; Reuben Wells, ensign.

Fifth Company—John Fuller, captain; Zephon Flower, lieutenant; William Spaulding, ensign.

Sixth Company—Leonard Westbrook, captain.

Seventh Company—Adriel Simons, captain; Samuel Southworth, lieutenant; Jedediah Shaw, ensign.

Eighth Company—Richard Townley, captain; Nathan Clinton, lieutenant; Israel Skeer, ensign.

#### SECOND REGIMENT.

John Jenkins, lieutenant colonel.

Waterman Baldwin, first major.

Constant Searles, second major.

First Company—James Abbot, captain; John Carey, lieutenant; John Atherton, ensign.

Second Company—John Tuttle, captain; Andrew Bennet, lieutenant; Lazarus Demison, ensign.

Third Company—Obadiah Taylor, captain; Isaac Osterhout, lieutenant; Joseph Carney, ensign.

Fourth Company—Micajah Harding, captain; Julius Towser, lieutenant; Moses Scovill, ensign.

Fifth Company—Eliphalet Stevens, captain; John Robinson, lieutenant; William Stevens, ensign.

Sixth Company—Henry Stark, captain; Cornelius Courtright, lieutenant; Samuel Carey, ensign.

Seventh Company—[Blank]

Eighth Company—Roger Searles, captain; Ishmael Bennet, lieutenant; James Scott, ensign.

#### THIRD REGIMENT.

Matthias Hollenback, lieutenant colonel; Mason F. Alden, first major; Putnam Catlin, second major.

First Company—Charles Bennet, captain; Eleazer Blackman, lieutenant; Aziel Dana, ensign.

Second Company—Nathan Beach, captain; Alexander Jamison, lieutenant; Joseph Cory, ensign.

Third Company—Jonathan Smith, captain; William Jackson, lieutenant; Andrew Decker, ensign.

Fourth Company—Ebenezer Parrish, captain; Walter Brown, lieutenant; Hallet M. Gallup, ensign.

Fifth Company—John Kenedy, captain; Henry Mattis, lieutenant; John Potman, Jr., ensign.

Sixth Company—Thomas Stevens, captain; Rufus Lawrence, Jr., lieutenant; Stephen Kingsberry, ensign.

Seventh Company—George Palmer Ransom, captain; Abraham Neebitt, lieutenant; Benjamin Badlock [Bidlack] ensign.

Eighth Company—Edward Inman, captain; Napthali Hurlbut, lieutenant; Benjamin Cary, ensign.

#### ACCOMPANYING LETTERS.

To Thomas Miffin, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I certify that the inclosed list contains the names of the officers elected in the three regiments composing Luzerne Brigade of Militia with their rank as they have been returned to me.

Given under my hand at Wilkesbarre, the 17th day of August, 1793.

JESSE FELL, B. I.

SIR: Please to send per the bearer, Mr. Gaylord, the commissions for the militia officers of the county of Luzerne, and oblige your humble servant,  
JESSE FELL.

WILKESBARRE, January 11th, 1794.

The Secretary of the Comw. Pennsyla.

#### ENDORSEMENT.

1793 } Luzerne County Return of Mil-  
August } itia Officers for three  
23d. } Regiments.

Commissions made out and dated the 17th of August, 1793. Received of Alexr. James Dallas, Esqr., Commissioner of Militia Officers of 3 Regts., agreeable to his return.

JUSTIN GAYLORD.

Entered in Executive Minutes the Comissions of the within 3 Regiments, made out by McCox.

#### The First Railroad in Wilkes-Barre.

EDITOR RECORD: Reading in the historical columns of the Weekly of the old settler, happenings, etc., of early days, I thought perhaps an account of the first railroad in Wilkes-Barre might be of interest to the RECORD readers.

About the year 1832 I was an apprentice in Ansel Thomas' cabinet shop. At the same time Dick Jones, then a boy of 15 or 16, was an apprentice in Sam Howe's tin shop. Thomas' shop was on the corner of Northampton and Main Streets, and Howe's was on Franklin, a few doors below Market. The first locomotive was built in Howe's tin shop, by Dick Jones. He made the boiler of copper, most of the works being of brass. He and I did the turning of the wood work on a lathe in Thomas' shop, evenings. I made the rails of half inch white wood, wedging them into notches in the ties. This track was laid on Howe's work bench and was about 60 feet long. The engine was about 18 inches in length, and had an upright boiler. An admission fee of 6¼ cents was charged to see the engine run.

After a while, tiring of the engine, Jones got Joe White, son of "Danny" White, the wagonmaker, to build him a boat with side wheels. In this boat the engine was placed, so forming a side wheel steamboat. He took this down to the basin back of the Redoubt and ran it first on the 4th of July. Dick Jones afterwards became proprietor of the Vulcan Iron Works in South Wilkes-Barre.

MILES JOHNSON,  
Lathrop, Cal.

#### The Earliest Physician in Wyoming.

The following query is addressed to the RECORD by John W. Jordan, of the State Historical Society:

In the summer (June) of 1755, Christian Frederick Post, the Indian missionary, was so severely wounded in the leg while in the Wyoming Valley, that an Indian runner was dispatched to Bethlehem for Dr. J. M. Otto for medical advice. The doctor was about one week with his patient. Was this Moravian physician the first to visit the valley in a professional way? JOHN W. JORDAN.

## PAYNE PETTEBONE DEAD.

**A Long and Useful Life Ended—Called Hence Without a Moment's Warning.**

Payne Pettebone died at his residence in Wyoming Tuesday morning, March 20.

In company with Mrs. Pettebone and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Dickson, of this city, he returned last Friday from several weeks' stay in Louisiana and Florida, and seemed, so late as the evening previous to his death, to be in the best of spirits. He chatted with his family until a late hour, expecting the next day to make a visit at the home of his son-in-law, A. H. Dickson, Esq., in Wilkes-Barre. His death, therefore, is a most distressing shock to his family and the wide circle of friends and acquaintances and it will be a long time before they can be reconciled to his loss.

Mr. Pettebone has been so long identified with the social, business, educational, and religious affairs of Northeastern Pennsylvania, that it would be difficult to name any important public interest which will not be affected by his death.

He was born in Kingston Dec. 23, 1813, and from his birth to his death was identified with the history of Wyoming Valley. On the 8rd of October, 1837, he was united in marriage with Caroline M., daughter of Mr. William Sweetland, of Wyoming. Their union proved most fortunate and happy. Six children were born to them, two of whom are living, Kate S., wife of A. H. Dickson, Esq., of this city, and Robert Treat Pettebone, now superintendent of the Wyoming Shovel Works. The golden wedding anniversary was celebrated last fall, a full account of which appeared in the Record.

Mr. Pettebone's active, energetic and systematic business habits readily placed him as a leader in large business enterprises, securing to him great public confidence and wealth of character and substance. For nine years he was treasurer of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R.R., and for several years previous to its consolidation with the D., L. & W. R.R., one of its directors. He was a director of the First National Bank of Pittston, of the Wyoming National and Miners' Savings Banks of this city, of the Washington Life Insurance Co., trustee of the Forty Fort Cemetery Association and of the Wyoming Monument Association and of other important interests. At the Centennial of the of the Wyoming Massacre, he entertained President and Mrs. Hayes, Governor Hartmanft and wife, and many other celebrities. He was for several years president of the Wyoming Camp Meeting Association, president of the Wyoming Bible Society, and, at the time of his death, president of the Board of Trustees of Wyoming Seminary.

It was largely through his and Mrs. Pettebone's liberality that Nelson Memorial Hall has been erected. He was a trustee in Wesleyan University and Drew Theological Seminary, to both of which institutions he has made large gifts of money. In 1876 he was lay delegate from Wyoming Conference to the general conference, and in 1884 he represented Wyoming Conference in the Centennial Methodist conference at Baltimore. In his home church at Wyoming he has held every position of trust within the gift of its members. He and Mrs. Pettebone presented to the Methodist Society the handsome edifice in which they now worship. His gifts to the poor and his ministries to the young, the struggling and the deserving were innumerable. Every needy cause found in him a friend and helper. It is not invidious to say that few persons have ever given more in a quiet way than Mr. Pettebone. He will be universally missed. To multitudes of our readers his death will seem an irreparable loss.

At nine o'clock Friday morning the trustees of Wyoming Seminary met at the parsonage in Wyoming and passed resolutions respecting the great loss the institution had suffered in the death of Mr. Pettebone. They then repaired to the Pettebone mansion, which was thronged with neighbors and visitors assembled to extend their sympathies to the bereaved family. The Rev. Dr. Y. C. Smith offered a touching prayer, after which the mournful cortege proceeded to the Methodist Church, which for the first time since it was built was crowded to its utmost capacity. A great company of clergymen and prominent business men were present. Among the former were seated on the platform: Rev. Drs. Y. C. Smith, L. L. Sprague, H. A. Buttz, of Drew Seminary; N. G. Parke, A. H. Tuttle, J. E. Priece, Revs. A. Griffin, J. G. Eokman, W. S. Stites, John LaBar, W. J. Keatley, G. M. Colville, W. Edgar, J. A. Faulkner, L. O. Floyd, W. J. Hill, H. M. Crydenwise, C. H. Sackett, F. A. Chapman, and Presiding Elder Van Schoick and Pastor Fuller, who had charge of the services. Of the latter there were from abroad, Acting President J. M. Van Vleck, of Wesleyan University; Col. Dorrance, W. T. Smith, Esq., of Scranton, Hon. John B. Smith, J. E. Patterson, and many others. The pall bearers were William Connell, Theodore Strong, B. G. Carpenter, Thomas Ford, W. R. Storrs, Samuel Pringle, Jacob L. Shoemaker and Geo. S. Bennett. Rev. A. H. Tuttle, D. D., read Eph. 3rd chapter, from the 14th verse; Rev. G. M. Colville read the 121st Psalm, and Rev. A. Griffin offered a fervent, appropriate prayer. The hymns, "Blest be the tie that binds," and "Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep," were tenderly sung by



the choir. Presiding Elder Van Sobolik, for many years a close personal friend of Mr. Pettebone, referred in warm terms to the friendship which had existed between them and to his estimate of Mr. Pettebone as a christian.

Rev. Dr. H. A. Buttz, president of Drew Theological Seminary, then spoke of the great help which Mr. Pettebone had extended to that institution in the times of its greatest need. He referred to him as a "well rounded man," complete in judgment, in generosity and in all that constitutes true manliness. In closing he dwelt in touching terms on the warm friendship which he felt for Mr. Pettebone.

Rev. M. D. Fuller, pastor of Mr. Pettebone, closed the services in an address of great interest. He read a memorandum which Mr. Pettebone had left of his conversion—also read from a postal card found in the bottom of Mr. Pettebone's trunk, a statement written nine years ago which was exceedingly suggestive in view of the widespread feeling that great wealth and station constitute success. Among the sentences were these: "All my business life I have been very active and industrious and reasonably successful; but, food and clothing, work not done at night, none of my plans ever fully realized."

The pastor read resolutions adopted by the Official Board of the Wyoming Church, and then spoke in a most appropriate and affecting manner of Mr. Pettebone's usefulness, his kindness to the poor, his love for his children and family, and how closely he had bound to him all who really knew him. During Mr. Fuller's remarks many were moved to tears.

Altogether the services were most impressive. When the vast multitude wended their way to Forty Fort Cemetery where all that was mortal of Payne Pettebone was to be laid to rest, all felt that they followed to his burial one whose like, for real worth and usefulness, they would not soon see again.

Dr. Sprague, president of Wyoming Seminary, read the following resolutions passed by the trustees at their meeting:

Whereas, it has pleased God in his wisdom to remove from our midst our beloved brother, Payne Pettebone, who has for twenty-six years been a member of this board, and for nine years has been its president; therefore resolved,

1, That it is with a deep sense of bereavement that we record an expression of our deceased brother's invaluable services as a member of this board, and of his fidelity in discharging all the duties confided therewith to his keeping.

2, That it is with great satisfaction that we recall the cordial and happy relations that have ever existed between him and the mem-

bers of this board, his earnest co-operation in every enterprise to promote the interests of the school, and that we bear testimony to his admirable qualities as a christian gentleman and his large-heartedness as a benefactor.

3, That the heartfelt sympathy of this board be extended to the stricken and bereaved family, and that we shall bear them in our prayers to a throne of divine consolation.

4, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the institution, and published in the daily papers, and that an engrossed copy be presented the family of the deceased.

Wyoming, Pa., March 28, 1888.

#### THE WILL OF PAYNE PETTEBONE.

Disposition of a Valuable Estate—Details of the Provisions Made—The Original Document and Codicils.

The will of the late Payne Pettebone was filed Tuesday March 27 at the Register's office.

The original form of the document was drawn January 15, 1872, and it is in substance as follows:

I. Caroline M., my wife, shall receive such share of my estate as she would have received had I died intestate; also right to use homestead and grounds for life.

II. To Emily Shafer, my half sister, I give that tract in Kingston Township known as the "Phillips lot," containing about seven acres; also \$4,000 to be invested, she to receive the interest semi-annually.

III. To my brother, Stoughton Pettebone, \$2,000.

IV. To the children of my deceased sister, Marilla Fellows, \$3,000.

V. I give and bequeath to each of my three namesakes, viz.: Payne Pettebone Thomas, of Illinois, Payne Pettebone, Kingston, and Payne Pettebone Shafer, \$1,000.

VI. \$500 to be invested and interest applied in keeping in good order the "old" Pettebone and the "Tuttle" lots in Forty Fort Cemetery.

VII. All the net and residue of the estate is given to his daughter Kate and his son Robert T., in equal shares.

In case of the death of both of them intestate and without issue, the estate is to go in equal shares to the children of his brother, Stoughton Pettebone, and the children of his half sisters Emily Shafer and Marilla Fellows.

The fifth section, however, as above given, was subsequently amended by memoranda written across in red ink, stating that the \$1000 had been paid Payne Pettebone Thomas, and that a balance, of \$500 only was due Payne Pettebone of Kingston, the other half having been paid.

The original document was witnessed by E. P. Darling, Harvey I. Jones and James Flett, and Caroline M. Pettebone, wife of deceased, is made executrix.

Codicil No. 1 was added to the will and dated April 9, 1874. This provides

I. That the interest on the \$4,000, bequeathed to the sister, Emily Shafer, shall commence at the death of the testator.

II. That the \$2,000 bequeathed to Stoughton Pettebone, shall be increased to \$5,000.

III. That the \$2,000 bequeathed to the children of Marilla Fellows shall be doubled.

Codicil No. 2 was added December 20, 1880, witnessed by E. E. Wolfe and Benjamin Lanback on this addition:

I. \$5,000 is given to the endowment fund of Drew Theological Seminary.

II. \$5,000 is given toward the erection of the Wyoming M. E. Church.

III. The bequest given to Emily Shafer (will and codicil No. 1) is limited to her issue, heirs and assigns. No part of this to go to her son Staughton, but his three children to have said portion.

IV. From the share of testator's brother Staughton, \$1,000, the amount of a note held against him, is deducted.

V. From the amount willed to Payne Pettebone Thomas, \$400 is deducted with accrued interest from the time of loaning such amount to said Thomas.

VI. The advancement heretofore made to my daughter, Kate P. Dickson, from time to time and charged on my books shall be applied as her share without regard to the statute of limitation, but no interest shall be charged and any already added shall be deducted.

VII. The sums devised to the several devisees in my will shall not be subject to liens or attachment of creditors, the amount devised being intended for the benefit of the persons concerned free from incumbrances.

On July 30, 1882, a codicil No. 3 was added, which provided in substance:

I. That the bequest toward the erection of the Wyoming M. E. Church was cancelled, the church having been meantime erected.

II. That the bequest to Drew Theological Seminary had been paid, and hence should be cancelled.

III. That the bequest to Payne P. Thomas had been paid, and was cancelled.

IV. That \$500 had been paid on the bequests to Payne Pettebone, and hence the bequest to him was cancelled to that extent.

V. That the account against his daughter, Kate P. Dickson, should not be charged to her.

The next sheet is headed: "Continuation of 2d appendix to my will," and says: "Referring to the fifth section of this appendix, relative to the cancellation of the account

against my daughter, Kate P. Dickson, Nov. 11, 1881, I give and bequeath to my son, Robert Treat Pettebone, my undivided half interest in the Wyoming Shovel Works, he being owner of the other half."

As the conclusion of all, was written, Feb. 22, 1887, this intention; unfulfilled, however, as death intervened:

"Awaiting further developments of our affairs, to make new and complete will, so as to dispense with codicils and appendixes—now however about ready—wanting chiefly opportunity."

#### Death of Mrs. M. A. Hunt.

It is seldom that death comes so suddenly as it did on Monday, March 12, 1888, to Mrs. Mary A. Hunt, mother of Mrs. W. M. Shoemaker. Mrs. Hunt had retired on Monday evening apparently in perfect health, after spending an hour or two most happily with her little grandchild. She had gone to bed when she was suddenly seized with distress and called for help. Mrs. Bonham, of Forty Fort, who was visiting at Mr. Shoemaker's, hastened to her relief, as did Mrs. Shoemaker, and such simple restoratives as are usually at hand were applied. She continued to grow worse and a physician was hurriedly summoned. Mrs. Hunt was conscious, though in great distress, and the only words she uttered were, "Is this death?" Not more than 20 or 25 minutes elapsed before the vital spark had fled.

The daughter, herself ill, was completely prostrated by the suddenness of the shock. Upon Mr. Shoemaker's return from down town he was met with the startling news that his mother-in-law, whom he left apparently well only two hours before, was dying. Though a strong man, he was almost unnerved.

Mrs. Hunt was 68 years of age and was born in Elizabeth, N. J. Her father was Keen Pruden, a prominent resident of Elizabeth. Deceased was a cousin of Charles Parrish, Geo. H. Parrish and Mrs. F. W. Hunt, all of this city, their mothers being sisters. Her father died some eight years ago at the age of 84. Mrs. Hunt has been a widow for many years. Mrs. Shoemaker, with whom she has made her home for nine years, is the only child. Deceased was a life long member of the Presbyterian Church. She was a woman of the most lovely character. She was fond of busying herself in religious and charitable deeds, and in Mr. Shoemaker's home she was as cheery as a perpetual sunbeam. Mr. Shoemaker says of her that during all the time spent as a member of his household she was never heard to utter an impatient word or seen to wrinkle her features with a frown.

The funeral took place March 14, at 4:30 p.m., from the Shoemaker residence, 42 North River Street.

**Death of a Nonagenarian.**

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Wentz were in Waymart, Wayne Co., in attendance recently upon the funeral of the latter's father, Philander Beattys. Deceased was born 90 years ago in Danbury, Conn., and was a first cousin to Phineas I. Barnum, the great showman. His wife died ten years ago, shortly after they had celebrated their golden wedding. Besides Mrs. Wentz he leaves two children, Geo. P. Beattys, and Mrs. Sophia Kent, both of Waymart. Miss Ione Kent, whose poetical productions have from time to time adorned the columns of the RECORD, is a granddaughter.

**Postmaster Mathers Dead.**

Ziba Mathers, postmaster at Luzerne Borough, died at his home Monday, Mar. 11 after a ten days' illness of typhoid pneumonia. Mr. Mathers was born near where he died, Oct. 25, 1858, and was consequently in his 80th year. He was a lawyer by profession, having been admitted to the bar nearly four years ago. He was appointed by President Cleveland as postmaster in 1885. His paternal grandfather was born in Ireland, and his father, John Mathers, is a native of Kingston Township, a millwright and farmer.

**Death of Sarah Finch Mason.**

Sarah Finch, relict of the late William Mason, died on March 8, 1888, in Dalton, Lackawanna County, at the age of 77. Her father, Isaac Finch, was born in Plains Township, Luzerne County, Feb. 25, 1763, married Sarah Tompkins Oct. 19, 1788, moved to Greenfield in 1809, and died March 10, 1848, aged eighty-five.

Deceased was one of a family of ten children, three of whom are living: Mrs. Fannie Spencer, of Greenfield, Pa., born Feb. 1, 1797; Mrs. Levina Benson, born March 18, 1805, and Mrs. Polly Whipple, born July 5, 1818.

**Dropsy of the Heart.**

The death of James Farrell occurred at the residence, 110 North Main Street, Monday, March 26. Having resided in Wilkes-Barre and in the same house for 55 years continuously, Mr. Farrell was very widely known, and as universally esteemed. His disease was dropsy of the heart, and he had suffered from it about a year. Deceased was 59 years old, and leaves a widow and four children. He was a brother of John Farrell, formerly of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co.

The funeral took place from the residence, Wednesday morning, at 9 o'clock.

**A Local Minister's Death.**

Rev. William Case, of Kingston, died in Middletown, N. Y., on March 11, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. C. Mullison, formerly of Luzerne County. Mr. Case was 71 years of age on the 16th of last October. He became a local preacher in the M. E. Church at the age of 25 and lived in Kingston many years. During the last few years he has been the victim of paralysis. He had been extensively engaged in grape culture, and his figure during the grape seasons has been a familiar one on the streets of Wilkes-Barre. He led a quiet life and was a good neighbor and an honored citizen, as also a faithful preacher of the gospel.

In 1884 he married the late Melissa Orane, daughter of Bela Orane, of Schoenectady, N. Y., by whom he had the following children, all of whom are living:

Mrs. J. O. Mullison, Middletown, N. Y.; Mrs. H. M. Haft, Hoopston, Ill., Mrs. G. W. M. Hawley, Philadelphia; Mrs. R. A. Leslie, of Wilkes-Barre, and Wm. M. Case, of Kansas City.

Funeral Tuesday at 10 am. from Kingston M. E. Church. Interment at Lehman.

**A Half Centenarian.**

On Feb. 23, Mr. J. O. Colvin, of Madison Street, attained to the honor of having lived half a century. His friends thought the occasion one worthy of celebrating, and in the afternoon gave a dinner party in his honor, at which were present his mother, Mrs. Colvin, of Benton, Delaware County, his sister, Mrs. O. Mason, of Dalton, and his brother, E. F. Colvin, of Milton, besides a number of Wilkes-Barre friends. As a token that fifty years of usefulness had entitled him to a few hours of "restful ease," his friends gave him a comfortable rocking chair.

In the evening, on returning from church service, Mr. Colvin again found his house invaded by friends to the number of eighteen or twenty. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Stuck, Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mrs. Corgins, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Fraser, Miss Emma Jones and Messrs. Jeffries and Page. These friends also brought as a gift a cushioned arm chair. During the evening luncheon was served, and singing and music were introduced to enliven the occasion, the guests remaining till a late hour.

**Sixty Years a Mason.**

The death of James Vannan, one of the oldest Masons in the State, occurred at his residence in Archbald March 26, at the age of 83 years. His death was the result of general debility. He was initiated into the Masons in Scotland 23 years ago, when he was but 20 years of age, and was a charter member of Kingston lodge, 895.

**Mr. Gildersleeve and the Mob.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** I was much interested in reading the essay of Miss Wedlock in your weekly of February 24. Reference to old-time occurrences of which I was an eye-witness brings them vividly to mind. I well recollect the occasion of Mr. Gildersleeve's ride on the rail to which the writer of the essay refers, as well as the previous experience he had at the time of Rev. Mr. Cross' visit to Wilkes-Barre in 1837. Both of these occurrences actually took place as depicted, though language is not sufficient to fully express the facts. I fear if they could be adequately portrayed on paper either with pen or brush, there would be few found who would credit them.

Miss Wedlock, has of course, related the circumstances as she received them from others, and is not to be blamed for some inaccuracies in her essay.

Mr. Burleigh was not interfered with at Mr. Gildersleeve's house during the day except by the hooting of some boys, as it had been announced that he would speak at the court house that evening, but the men of the town who favored suppression of free speech were busy making preparations to give the abolition orator and poet a warm reception on the occasion. The meeting was held in the upper room of the old frame court house and at an early hour all the available space was occupied by the mob. Mr. Burleigh, accompanied by Mr. Gildersleeve, Frank Dana and a few others, (there were but few of that persuasion,) with difficulty forced their way to the speaker's stand. Without any introduction the orator essayed to speak. He had uttered but a few sentences, when at a given signal the uproar commenced. Cries of "hustle him out, hustle him out," resounded from all parts of the room, and soon a rush was made for the little coterie of abolitionists who had braved the fury of the mob by venturing into their presence. To describe the scene, as I have said, is beyond the power of tongue or pen, or painter's pencil. I was in the rear end of the room, and near the head of the winding, rickety stairway, and made my escape with all speed to the street. The crowd rushed down and out in the greatest possible confusion, and soon I observed Mr. Burleigh emerge leaning on the arm of Frank Dana followed by a crowd of men and boys. They moved hurriedly down Main Street, unmolested save by a terrific hooting and howling, and so on until they reached Mr. Dana's house in Woodville. The next day Mr. Burleigh hurriedly left the town, but the mob, maddened by his escape, determined to wreak their vengeance on the inoffensive man who had dared to invite his presence in Wilkes-Barre. A scantling was prepared on

one end of which an ox's horns, and on the other a tail of the same animal, were nailed. A crowd of men carrying the "horse," assembled at Mr. Gildersleeve's residence, and a few of them entered the house and brought him out in their arms and placed him in position. He offered no resistance. His countenance was as placid as a summer morning, and he seemed to enjoy the martyrdom. There was no other indignity offered to his person, as the essayist relates. His mild, unresisting demeanor seemed to completely disarm those who had any such intention. He was quietly ridden to the Phenix Hotel, there rested a few moments, and was returned in the same manner to his home.

I well remember the profound depths to which the community was stirred on the occasion, but there was none brave enough to interfere and denounce the furious mob. Indeed, some leading citizens partially, at least, justified the proceeding.

O. E. LATHROP.

Carbondale, March 3, 1888.

**The Gildersleeve Episode.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** There appeared in a recent issue of your paper a communication from O. E. Lathrop, giving a truthful account, as he understood the facts, of the outrage perpetrated upon the person of W. C. Gildersleeve, in the year 1837. Mr. Lathrop says: "A crowd of men carrying the 'horse' assembled at Mr. Gildersleeve's residence, and a few of them entered the house and brought him out in their arms and placed him in position."

Mr. Lathrop may or may not have been present on that occasion, but if he was he has forgotten just what did occur. There are still living eye witnesses, who were present and saw the entire performance. The veteran catchpole, J. F. Chollet, is one, O. E. Butler, another, and all, so far as I know, agree that the disgraceful procession started from the old Phoenix, now Wyoming Valley Hotel, and proceeded up Market, turning up Franklin Street, as it was on that street Mr. Gildersleeve lived, in the house now owned by B. G. Carpenter. When the crowd had arrived about opposite the Harvey buildings it was met by Andrew Beaumont, who promptly demanded that they should desist from their hellish work. The men engaged in bearing the rail seemed cowed by the determined actions of Mr. Beaumont, and sullenly set the sufferer down, and the howling, yelling band of followers slunk away, leaving Mr. Gildersleeve in the middle of the street.

While coming up Market Street, Mr. G. appealed to his tormentors to release him, as the seat he was occupying was not only humiliating, but torturing his person as

well, while the crowd of yelling hoodlums were jeering at his every effort to find a softer spot on the fall.

Tom Drake, the poet laureate of the "Mugletonians," composed an epic commemorative of their grand achievement. The Old Phoenix was called in Mugletonian parlance the Eagle's Eye, and the old Dennis Hotel, corner of Market and Franklin, was known as "Rotgut Hall." Only two lines of this grand poetic effusion occur to me at this time. In allusion to Mr. Gildersleeve's efforts to free himself from his tormenters, Tom wrote:

"Twixt Eagle's Eye and Rotgut Hall  
He lost his love of railing."

In order to get their victim within their power the conspirators, who entertained such a deadly hate against abolitionists, sent word to Mr. Gildersleeve that a Mr. Camp was at the hotel and desired to have a talk with him, so he went down there and fell into the trap set for him.

Another statement of Mr. Lathrop's is slightly at variance with the exact facts in the case. In alluding to the "horse," he says there was affixed at one end a pair of horns and at the other a tail. This is certainly a mistake, as the one Mr. Gildersleeve was forced to mount was a plain 3x4 inch hemlock scantling without any adornments. But there was just such a steed prepared as he describes; that was intended for use on another and more important occasion. Mr. Gildersleeve had the rioters bound over to answer at the next court of quarter sessions, and whether there was an indictment found or not I am unable to say. But on the morning on which the court met, Judge Jessup being on the bench, the "horse was found standing in front of the court house ready for mounting, and a crowd of excited men could be seen watching every movement of the machinery of justice. It may have been that the officers of the law were not overawed by these mysterious preparations, but certain it is that the case was never brought on for trial and there was no occasion for using the wooden steed otherwise than as above stated.

It may be supposed at this day, that it was only the rowdy element of our town that could so far forget what was expected of good citizens as to join in this most disgraceful proceeding; but such is not the fact. At that day it was regarded as rather meritorious than otherwise to persecute an abolitionist, and some of the actors in that scene stood high in the social scale of our town, and their descendants would no doubt blush to see their names in print as active participants on that occasion. w. j.

#### A Mob Rebuked by a Woman.

LUCERNE, March 13.—EDITOR RECORD: I wish to correct a single paragraph of Correc-tor Lathrop's article, "Mr. Gildersleeve and the Mob," published to-day in the RECORD. He makes a mistake when he says, "but there was none brave enough to interfere and denounce the furious mob."

After leaving the Phoenix Hotel, when the mob reached the corner of Market and Franklin Streets, that noble woman, Mary Tracy, (afterwards Mrs. Charles A. Lane) rushed out of the old Sinton Store (then Sinton, Tracy & Co.,) denounced and shamed the master spirits of the mob, till they were completely cowed, and ingloriously surrendered. AN EYE WITNESS.

#### His Latest and Best.

"Rachel Craig," a novel by Caleb E. Wright, is just out from the publishing house of Robert Baur & Son, of Wilkes-Barre. It is a handsome volume, a credit to the publisher, and to the city as a sample of what can be done here.

The story is decidedly the best written by Mr. Wright, the style being lively and the plot fascinating and such as holds the reader spell-bound by its novelty and exciting character. The scene of the principal events is the Wyoming Valley and the time that of Sullivan's expedition. The strong local coloring should give the work a large sale in this vicinity while the intrinsic merit of the work will, doubtless, give it popularity elsewhere. The work is for sale by the publisher and by Puckey Bros. Price \$1.25.

#### Reprint of "Otzinachson."

Thirty-one years ago there appeared from the pen of John F. Meginness, of Williamsport, one of the most valuable local histories of our State. It was called "Otzinachson, a History of the West Branch Valley." It is long since out of print. The author has been solicited repeatedly to issue a new edition, but the large cost, and the uncertainty of sufficient patronage has heretofore deterred Col. Meginness from attempting it. He now proposes to issue it in 12 numbers, as the second volume of the *Historical Journal*, provided sufficient subscribers can be obtained at \$3 each. The work will be carefully revised and much new matter added. When completed it will be a volume of about 500 pages, ready for the binder. Any of our readers who would like to obtain this valuable history should notify Col. Meginness at once, as he must know during March what to depend upon. If the response is not sufficiently large the book will probably never be reproduced and must pass out of existence, since the author says he cannot afford to publish it in any other way.

## PIONEER INCIDENTS.

**Narrative of Lydia Hurlbut Tiffany and Diary of Her Brother, John Hurlbut, who Taught School in Hanover Township.**

[Contributed by H. B. Plumb.]

The following was dictated by Lydia Hurlbut Tiffany, to her grandson, Myron Hurlbut, in 1852. She died the same year, at the age of 77 years:

"My father's name was John Hurlbut, and my mother's maiden name was Abigail Avery. My grandfather's name was John, and he had two brothers, Joseph and Titus. I think Joseph and Titus settled in New London, Connecticut, and followed mercantile pursuits. John, my grandfather, settled in Groton, Connecticut. My grandmother's maiden name was Stoddard. The maiden names of the wives of Joseph and Titus I do not remember. I recollect that one of the daughters of Joseph or Titus died of consumption. Her name was Lydia, and I was named for her. My mother used to tell about visiting Mr. Hurlbut's friends in New London. She used to tell of viewing the ships far out at sea with a spy-glass, which would so magnify a ship that was so distant as to appear like a speck on the water, that the sailors could be seen working in the rigging. The Stoddards were respectable and enterprising. One of my uncles married one of them; for there were so many of them that it was not necessary in taking one to marry a relation.

"I rather think my grandmother was living when we removed from Groton to Wyoming. I am now quite sure that grandmother was living at the time of my father's death, (March, 1782) for I think that I have heard mother speak of her losing two sons very near together, viz., my father and Rufus, who was killed in Groton Fort, both within a year.

"My father was one of a family of eight, named in the order of their ages, beginning with the eldest, as follows: Stephen, Mary, John, Rufus, Hannah, Ralph, Free love and Rizeph. Stephen removed to the coast country in New Hampshire, and some of his sons and grandsons have been clergymen. [The writer desires to say here that Stephen Hurlbut was one of the first two hundred settlers that came to Wyoming in 1789, and was, as he understands, the surveyor for the Squehanna company, but is not heard of here later than 1773 and 1774.] Judge Hurlbut, of Auburn, was one of his descendants. Mary married a Williams, and I have no further knowledge of her. Rufus married a woman named Lester, of handsome person and sweet disposition. Rufus was killed in the Fort at Groton when it was attacked by Arnold. He left a wife and

eight children. There were forty-two widows made in Groton in the course of an hour or two. Hannah married a Stoddard, lived in Groton and had only one son, name James. Ralph died unmarried in the vicinity of Lake Champlain, I think in the old French war. Grandmother was much distressed for fear he had died unprepared, but I, for one, do not think she ought to have been anxious, for his letters from camp certainly breathed the spirit of true piety.

Free love married a deacon in the Congregational Church; his name was Morgan. He was a thriving farmer. Rizeph, when considerably advanced in life, married a widower of handsome property named Chapman, living in Groton, and had one daughter.

"Father was born in 1730, and died in March a short time after his fifty-second birthday, (1782.) Mother was born on the first day of April, O. S., 1735, and died at Pittston, formerly called Lackawanna, on November 29, 1805. Father and mother were very zealous Whigs in the time of the revolution. Father was two or more times chosen a member of the Legislature of Connecticut. He was a member in the time of the war. At one time he came home and told mother that Congress had called for more men, and he did not know where they were to get so many. Why, said mother, we have two, John and Christopher, that are old enough to send. [John was sixteen and Christopher nineteen.] True, said he, but the next thing is are you willing to send them? Certainly, she replied. Accordingly John was sent to a pest house to be inoculated with the small-pox. Christopher had already had the disease. They enlisted for one year in the army and were present at the battles of White Plains, Trenton and Princeton. George the III. was having his children at the same time that mother was having hers; and she said that almost every year there would be a new prince or princess to be prayed for.

"My brother and sisters in the order of their ages were as follows:

Christopher, born May 30, 1757.

John, born February 21, 1780.

Anna, born January 5, 1768.

Katherine, born March 18, 1765.

Naphtali, born August 12, 1798.

Stephen, born February 6, 1770.

Abigail, born June, 1772.

Lydia, (myself,) born July 10, 1775.

"Father resided, I should think, between two and three miles from Gale's Ferry, and half a mile from Lantern Hill, (Connecticut) where they use to gather whortleberries. A man getting berries there once, saw something on a rock that was bright and shining like the sun. He broke it off and took it to a goldsmith who pronounced it a precious

stone, a carbuncle I think. It made the man rich."

[Here it will be best to give the remainder of the story in the words of her brother, John Hurlbut, taken from a memorandum book written by him at the time of the occurrences.]

MEMORANDUM BOOK OF JOHN HURLBUT, JR.

"Groton April ye 3d, 1778, This day I enlisted in the Continental army under Reinbin Hewitt, lieutenant, a recruiting officer, for the Guard at Rhode Island, for one year, two months of which I was at Newport. [Probably having the small-pox.] May the 18th, began the fort at Brinton's Point. June ye 25th, encamped at Portsmouth; there built a fort, and another at Howland's Ferry. August ye 1st, I came home on furlow. September ye 15th, left Rhode Island, marched for New York under command of Christopher Lippit, chief colonel; Adam Coomstock, lieutenant; James Lew & C. Mason, majors, and 12 captains' companies. And with 12 days' pleasant travel came to Fairfield, six days more brought us to Fort Washington on York Island where we encamped, being ye 8d day of October; and in about two weeks marched off again and encamped at Milesquire, and from there to White Plains, where the battle was fought October ye 22d, 1778; from thence to Phillipeborough, which place we left the 28th of November, in chase of the British army, as they followed Gen. Washington through the Jerseys; the 4th of December crossed North River; ye 11th at Morreston; from thence to Easton, Bristol next, there at Christmass. Gen. Washington went to Trenton, and took 923 prisoners ye 26th of December; from thence to Burlington; from thence to Bordington; from thence to Caswir; from thence to Trenton, where we had a battle on the 3d of January, A. D. 1777; the night following stole a march to Princeton, in which place was five Ridgements of British troops, of which we took one wing of them, the rest fled: and from thence we marched to Moristown; from thence to Chatham; from thence to Woodbridge and Amboy; then to Chatham again, this being the 19th January, in which day our Redgements time was out, and we were discharged and I set off for home. January ye 23th came home; February ye 21st being my birthday, being then 17 years old.

"The summer following I lived at home except being called to serve in the militia about two months. Some time in May, 1777, Christopher took a journey to Susquehannah where he staid all that summer. The 4th day of July father sold his farm. In October father took a journey to Susquehannah, where he bought a farm the 12th of November 1777, then father and Christo-

pher came home to Groton. February ye 10th, (1778,) Chris and I set out for Susquehannah; with two sleds left Groton, and with a long and tedious [journey] got through. February ye 28d. A. D. 1778, arrived at Thomas Stoddard's in Kingston in Westmoreland; at which place we staid till April then moved to Hanover, about 9 miles down the river to the farm that father bought. We boarded at Mr. Corey's until the 28th of May, then I set out to meet father's family that was moving to Wyoming, who I accordingly met at Harwineston in Connecticut, and then I drove his wagon on til we came to Minisinks. There father was taken sick about the middle of June, 1778. Then I went with the teams to Lackawak, where sister Nubba [Abigail] was taken sick and in four days she died, the 30th day of June 1778; at which time I heard the Indians were at Wyoming. The 1st day I came to Delaware where father was sick, and was taken sick with the same distemper, viz: the bloody flux. Ye third of July the melancholy and destructive blow was struck at Wyoming, in the nineteenth year of my age, which shocking news drove the people from Delaware. There we staid without neighbors until father and myself and Lydia got well, then we moved to Showngonk, where father hired a farm of Col. Wheeler, and moved on it the 16th of July, 1778, and in October, ye 10th, father was taken sick with the nervous fever; after him Katharine and Anna, then, after they got well, February the 1st day, 1778, Stephan staken sick, and after 4 weeks sickness, 2 weeks of which he lay speechless, and in the most languishing pains, he expired the 28th of February, 1779, in the 9th year of his age; and so since the 28th of last May we have moved with our family about 300 miles and have buried one sister at Lackaway being in the sixth year of her age, and one brother in the ninth year of his age, all within 9 months and have lived in perpetual fear of our lives on the frontiers next to the Indians. And sometime in the month of April, 1778, hired the farm of Daniel Skinner in Showngonk, where we went to farming again; and in September I came to see Wyoming to provide provisions for our family; and after a fortnight visit I returned home and was immediately taken sick and lay helpless until the 8th of November on which day father had prepared all in the best manner for a journey, and set out with 4 oxen, and 2 horses, and 4 cows, 14 hogs and 8 sheep, and with a large ox cart loaded with household stuff, father and mother, myself and Anna, Catharine, Naphtali and Lydia left Showngonk with full intent to go to Susquehanna, Christopher being there already, and with good success arrived at our own house at

Wyoming the 16th day of November, 1778. God grant we may long stay.

On the 14th of December, 1778, I engaged to teach a school in Hanover for 3 months in the 20th year of my age.

JOHN HURLBUT, Junior.

SCHOOL ACCOUNT—SUPPLIES—WOOD.

"1st, I supplied the 1st wood 5 days.  
Mr. Franklin and Mr. Forsyths 18 days.  
Then father 6 days.  
Then Mrs. Corey 6 days.  
Mr. Franklin and Mr. Forsyths 2 days.  
Then Mr. Corey 7 days.  
Then Mr. Franklin 5 days.  
Lieut. Franklin 4 days.  
Mr. Elliott 5 days.  
Mr. Elliot 1 day.

LIST OF PUPILS.

"Naphtali Hurlbut 71 days.  
Anna Hurlbut 18 days.  
Oatharine Hurlbut 29 days.  
Lydia Hurlbut 26 days.  
Joseph Corey 52½ days.  
Rebeckah Corey 48 days.  
Lucy Corey 52 days.  
Benjamin Corey 69 days.  
Olive Franklin 45 days.  
Raswel Franklin 65 days.  
Susannah Franklin 70 days.  
Alexander Forsyths 71 days.  
Elisha Forsyths 71 days.  
Father's (children) 144 days.  
Mr. Corey's 231 days.  
Mr. Franklin's 180 days.  
Mr. Forsyths' 142 days.

"March ye 11th, 1780, this day is a consumation of ye school." "Joseph Corey learnt to write and to sypher to the Rule of 8. Rebeckah and Lucy and Benjamin Corey learnt to read and to write. Olive Franklin learnt to write, Raswel to read and write, Susannah from the alphabet to read a good hand. Alexander Forsyths learnt to read, Elisha learnt the alphabet and to spell in 4 syllabels."

The Franklin above mentioned was Lieut. Rosewell Franklin that escaped the massacre July 2, 1778. The Coreys were probably two families, Mrs. Corey, the widow of Jenks killed in the battle and massacre, and Mr. Jonathan Corey, a resident of Hanover. Joseph Elliot was one of the two that escaped from the fatal ring of Queen Esther's Rock on the night of July 3, 1778.

This teacher, John Hurlbut, was in Capt. John Franklin's company of militia in 1780-2; was one of the prisoners sent to Easton jail in 1784 by Col. Armstrong for murder. He removed to Palmyra, N. Y., about 1807, and died there quite old.

"Jack Cade" of Local Interest.

The play which was given in Music Hall Thursday evening has not only a general but a local interest, its author being a former Wilkes-Barre man, Judge Robert T. Conrad, afterwards mayor of Philadelphia. In alluding to this fact the *Leader* says:

"He was once associated in an editorial capacity with the old *Susquehanna Democrat*, a sterling publication which at one time scintillated with wit, wisdom and bright emanations of such writers as Judge Woodward, afterwards of the Supreme bench; Judge Kidder, afterwards on the Luzerne bench; Ovid F. Johnson, afterwards Attorney General of Pennsylvania; Sharp D. Lewis, Esq., and R. T. Conrad, afterwards mayor of Philadelphia. The latter wrote "Jack Cade" for Forrest, the eminent tragedian, who once offered a prize for the best American production. Mr. Conrad's able work attracted the attention of Mr. Forrest and the critics, and was selected from hundreds of plays with which the actor was deluged. It has since become one of the standard stage offerings. Mr. Collier is credited with a highly artistic interpretation of the title role."

Dr. Wright's Collection Catalogued.

The extent and value of the library of the late Harrison Wright is shown in a catalogue of the same just issued from the press of Robert Baur & Son, and covering 41 pages. It is the intention to offer the library for sale, either as a whole or by single volume. The catalogue was not only printed by Mr. Baur, but was compiled by him, he preparing the titles direct from the books—a feat by no means easy, considering that the titles are in German, French, Latin, and other languages. Dr. Wright's collection should find a purchaser at home, and it is to be hoped it may not be scattered. The Historical Society, to which he devoted so much of his energy, might arrange for its purchase and thus perpetuate the library in its entirety where he would doubtless have wished it perpetuated.

It is especially rich in specimens of early printing, some books bearing date as early as 1471, at Nuremberg. Other dates almost as early are Ulm 1474, Basle 1476, Mantua 1478, Venice 1488, and many others. There are parchments of much earlier date. The collection also includes works on local history.



### WAS BRANT AT WYOMING?

Another Contribution to the Literature of the Subject—A Retteration of the Belief, Entertained by all the Old Settlers, That Brant was Here.

In the Bath (N. Y.) *Plain-Dealer*, of March 31, 1838, is an article, presumably by A. J. McCall, Esq., who believes that Brant was at the Wyoming massacre, and we take pleasure in reprinting it, though it throws no new light on the subject. It is in accordance with the popular belief of that time—whether correct or not—that Brant was at Wyoming. The article is as follows:

Was Brant at Wyoming July 3, 1778? It was so believed until W. L. Stone published his life of Brant. Stone says that the uniform testimony of the British officers and Tories connected with the expedition against Wyoming deny that he was there—but note—none tell where he was at the time, which would seem an easy thing if he was not there. I find in Simms' *Frontiersmen of New York*, volume two, page one hundred and ninety, that he was seen and recognized by parties who knew him well and whom he protected at Springfield, at the head of Otsego Lake, late in June, 1778. It would not have been difficult for him to reach Wyoming in time for the battle as his Indian and Tory rangers were in trim, and moved with wonderful rapidity. There can be no question that he was in that vicinity for Gen. Stark in command at Albany under date of June 23, 1778, writes to Capt. Ballard at Cherry Valley to stop the progress of Brant, who was in that vicinity or expected there on some mischief bent.

In 1859 the late John K. Hale, then of Hornellsville, published the following statement made by Col. Wm. Stephens, better known as "Col. Bill," of Canistota, which he committed to writing and carefully read over to him and which he pronounced correct in every particular and is copied below:

"My father, Uriah Stephens, was a resident of Wyoming at the time of the horrid butchery of its inhabitants by the Indians, English and Tories, in 1778. I was at the time a mere child, and of course have no distinct recollections on the subject, but since I recollect any thing, I never heard it called a question by those who lived in the Wyoming Valley at the time of the massacre, or by the Indians who participated therein, but that Capt. Brant was there. That a large party of the Indian force went down the Canistota River there can be no doubt, as their canoes for the expedition were made on the head

waters of the Canistota, within some ten miles of the place where I now reside and where I have resided for more than sixty years. I have seen the stumps of trees, and the remains of one canoe, numberless times during this period. Some of the Indians also returned by the Canistota river. History shows the fact, that Roswell Franklin, late of Aurora, in the county of Cayuga, was one of the prisoners taken by the Indians, and as he was a relative of mine by marriage, the facts of his captivity, derived from him years since, are still fresh in my recollection. He has frequently given in my presence a full relation of the battle and the manner of his being taken prisoner, and the route pursued by the Indians on their return from Wyoming. He always said that his route was up the Canistota River in canoes; and that he has pointed out to me particular spots where they encamped for the night. Capt. Franklin always said that Brant was in the expedition; in fine during all my intercourse with the old inhabitants of the valley of Canistota and who principally came from Wyoming after the massacre, I never heard an intimation to the effect that Brant was not present at the battle and an active participant therein."

Hale also says Col. John B. Stephens, a relative of the above, an aged man, confirmed the statement. Mr. Hale further states that he has conversed with old settlers who had counted the stumps and estimated that twenty canoes could be constructed from the trees. Assuming that each canoe would carry ten, they could only transport two hundred. Stone says there were 500 Indians in the engagement besides regulars and Tories under Col. Butler.

The expedition started from Niagara and rendezvoused at Tioga Point. There were two great trails from Niagara, one by way of the Canaseraga and Canistota Valleys and the other by Sullivan's route. Now where did the balance of the Indians come from unless brought from the Mohawk or Otsego Country where Brant was in June with three hundred Indians and Tories who could easily reach the place of junction on time. Brant was a Mohawk, a protege of Sir Wm. Johnson an old resident of the Mohawk and Schoharie Valleys, and well acquainted with the people and the topography of the country; consequently he had the general supervision of affairs in that section unless specially sent to some other field. His being at Wyoming brings no discredit upon him for it is universally conceded and facts confirm it, that he was more humane and honorable in his operations than the British or Tories; he many times protected the harried settlers from their barbarities.

#### The Case in Court.

**EDROR RECORD:** As you have kindly published my notes on the "Gildersleeve mob," it has occurred to me that a word should be said on the sequel to it which transpired on the assembling of the first court thereafter. Judge William Jessup, of Montrose, was then on the bench, and Luzerne was one of the counties in his district for a short time, and until he made an exchange with Judge Conyngham. It was only a few weeks that intervened, and the rumor got abroad that the judge would charge the grand jury adversely to the rioters. My recollection is that no prosecution had been commenced, but it was thought the court would call attention to the matter, under its general powers, for such a presentment as the grand inquest might see fit to make. Very soon it was openly declared by some of the leaders that if the judge dared to bring the subject into his charge, he, too, would be ridden on the same rail.

Whether or not they had any further assurance that Judge Jessup would do his duty, or whether they relied alone on his well-known fearless disposition, matters not, sufficient to say, they were prepared for the emergency on the morning of the first day of court. The "horse" that had conveyed Mr. Gildersleeve, (if not the identical one it was just like it and similarly adorned) was brought on to the green just north of the meeting house and stood in such a way that the judge would have to pass it on his way to the courthouse.

I was in court that morning with a large crowd of spectators who had assembled to see the "fun" and promptly at the hour appointed the judge took his seat upon the bench. I well remember the look of determination that was upon his countenance as he called upon George Eicke, then the orier, to open court. His face was pale and wan, but not the least sign of flinching was visible.

When the grand jury had been impaneled he turned his face to where they sat and commenced in a low voice to give his charge. That there was a death-like stillness in that crowded audience may be imagined. He went through the usual routine of such occasions without a perceptible tremor in his voice, or anything that would indicate unusual excitement on his part. It was thought by many that he would yet fail to touch upon the subject which was the engrossing thought of the multitude present, but they were mistaken. In the clear and melodious voice, for which he was noted, raised to a pitch which corresponded with the importance and solemnity of the words he uttered, he spoke of the outrage which had been committed at the very seat of justice of the county they represented, de-

nouncing it as a crime against human rights and free speech and gave them to understand plainly and forcibly that their duty in the premises could not under the solemnity of their oath be evaded.

The old building in which he sat to dispense justice had often resounded with rare bursts of eloquence, but I venture to say that at no time had anything exceeded this effort of the fearless judge. Judge Jessup was a natural orator, and he seemed on this occasion to have an inspiration which enabled him to make the grandest effort of his life.

The effect upon the crowd was marvelous. At the conclusion of his address, the leaders of the mob slunk away, and soon the implement intended to terrorize the administrator of the law disappeared.

I am unable to say what the action of the Grand Jury was. My impression is that the matter was allowed to lapse. It was thought, perhaps, that the fearless position of Judge Jessup, and his magnificent exhortation of the cowardly conduct of the rioters, was enough. And, probably, it was.

O. E. LATHROP.

Carbondale, March 14, 1888.

#### What the Devil Remembers.

P. S. Joslin, Esq., who published the *Carbondale Gazette* in 1843, has presented the filed of that paper for that year to the senior of the Carbondale *Leader* editorial staff. The latter, Mr. O. E. Lathrop, indulges in some pleasant memories awakened by the old files. He says that "the nearest town of any importance was Wilkes-Barre, and the attendance on the courts was about the only inducement for a trip to that place. The grumbling and profanity occasioned by the journeys thither and hither through the mud and slush of the spring time, can hardly be estimated." Mr. Lathrop was the *Gazette* "devil" of those days.

#### Collecting Archeological Remains.

Cashier S. O. Jayne, of the Berwick National Bank, in a visit paid the RECORD on April 2, produced a stone tomahawk which he picked up along the Susquehanna at Belend some time ago. He had with him also some very fine arrowheads, of which he has gathered several hundred in strolls taken during the past few years at various points along the river between Danville and Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Jayne finds peculiar interest in his chosen diversion, and these Indian relics take on a special value to him because of the combination of healthful exercise with a fruitful effort in the archeological line he has thus formed.

**The Mead Family.**

In a recent issue of the RECORD was some correspondence relative to the Mead family, who were prominent in the early history of Wyoming Valley and later in the history of Steuben County, N. Y. Mr. A. J. McCall, of Bath, N. Y., kindly furnishes the following genealogical notes:

**EDITOR RECORD:** I send all I have of the Mead family. The Eli mentioned was a very prominent man in Steuben County in early days. He was elected a supervisor in 1792 (it was then Ontario County). He must have been a man of intelligence and character. He was a very old man when I knew him and understood he was born in Dutchess County. I have tried to get some information of his early life from his descendants, but have failed to get a response from them.

William Mead emigrated from England and located in Stamford, Conn., 1841. He is supposed to be the ancestor of the Mead family in New England.

Darius was born March 28, 1728, married Ruth Curtis, born May 28, 1734. Date of marriage and death unknown of either. Their children:

- 1, David, first surveyor of Wilkes-Barre, b. June 17, 1752, d. Aug. 28, 1816.
- 2, Asahel, killed in Wyoming massacre, b. Aug. 9, 1754.
- 3, John, b. July 22, 1756.
- 4, Ruth, b. April 16, 1761.
- 5, Darius, b. Dec. 9, 1764.
- 6, Betsy, b. June 1, 1769.
- 7, Joseph, b. June 26, 1772.

Children of Genl. David Mead, and Agnes Wilson, daughter of John and Jannet Wilson, m. 1774.

- 1, Darius.
  - 2, William.
  - 3, Sarah, who m. Rev. James Satterfield.
  - 4, Elizabeth, who m. Pateric Fannelly, (a son of theirs m. a daughter of Darius.)
- Four other children are unknown.

David, married second, Jannet Finney, 1793, daughter of Robert Finney. She died in 1826. Children:

- 9, David, b. 1793, d. 1812.
- 10, Robert, d. 1848.
- 11, Catharine, m. Lieut. P. Dunham.
- 12, Jane, m. Rev. Hutchinson.
- 13, Maria, m. William Gill.
- 14, Alexander, b. Sept. 8, 1807.
- 15, name unknown.

Eli Mead, a brother of Darius, was born in Dutchess County in 1745. His wife's name was Mary. He was a magistrate of Northumberland County, and emigrated to Painted Post, Steuben Co., N. Y., in 1789,

and died there July 19, 1826. His children were:

- 1, Eldad, b. Aug. 21, 1767, m. Jan. 7, 1790, Jerusha Cooper, d. Nov. 17, 1881.
- 2, Desire.
- 3, Eli.
- 4, Peggy.
- 5, Jane, who m. Philo Campbell. She died some years ago in the town of Woodhull, N. Y., leaving a family of sons and daughters.

Eldad had a daughter Polly, b. Oct. 9, 1790, m. Larew Mallory, of Painted Post. Left several children:

- 1, William M., of Towanda.
  - 2, Mary, m. Sherme.
  - 3, Harriet, m. Alex. Olcott.
  - 4, Another daughter, name unknown.
- My informant could not learn the names of the parents of Darius and Eli.

A. J. McCALL.

**Planting "In the Moon."**

[Daily Record, April 9.]

A valued correspondent in Plains writes on the above subject and relates his planting of early potatoes in the last two days of March in the "right sign of the moon." He says:

A Nanticoke farmer of past years, now gone to meet the enshrouded future, while agreeing that there was much superstition in the old German mind on the subject of regulating planting of seeds by the signs of the moon, said that no man should plant root crops when the moon pointed up, or sow grain or peas, which matured above ground, when the moon pointed down. He thought it probable that the best effect of regarding the moon's changes was the adopting of a system instead of a trusting to chance or whim, and the ground was prepared more carefully and work done better and in time.

I thought of him during the storms of middle March, snow white on the ground 28th, and mercury far below freezing, and met some jeers on determining to plant potatoes before the month was out.

Mr. Parrish had the best potato crops about Wilkes-Barre, and always planted "in the sign of the scales," which this year appeared March 29 and 30, and on Friday morning we had a plot of flat sandy land harrowed, plowed by late noon, marked out three feet apart in nine rows, and with potatoes out several days before, planted four of the rows in hills three feet apart, three pieces in the hill, leaving five rows to plant on Saturday morning, which was carefully done, covering with a hoe and patting the earth on top to settle it. Now the four rows of Friday, the 30th, were "in the moon." Unfortunately the sign had changed next day in the almanac, and we must see by the crop what difference that will make. I

thought the sign was 80th and 81st, but you see I had no right to think so, as I had the *Essex* Almanac. In all I have 500 hills.

Some years ago I began the experiment and as the sign was in the scales Sunday and Monday I got up at 2 o'clock Monday morning. But I had two experiments on hand; plowing and planting every third furrow and letting the plow cover the seed. It was not successful, as the sod covered so deep many of them never came up. Whether you hear of this one again depends. X.

#### Daddy Emmons.

I never see the name of this harmless and gentle spirited man, or hear it pronounced, but with reverential emotion. Many years have passed since it was first my pleasure to become associated with him in the mystic art of capturing fish. An occupation, that everybody knows, is, and always has been, with all men, one of the characteristics of genius.

The first time I met this ancient fisherman was at Harvey's Lake. There he had his summer cabin; invited to it by the genial warmth that lured also the osprey and kingfisher; and like them devoting himself to the one occupation. He had his boat, his bait net, and all his tools of trade at hand; and with the morning dawn was up and abroad upon the waters.

At our first interview I thought I discovered his merit; and then and there we grew into bonds of affinity. On the little inland sea I was constrained to acknowledge his superior sleight of hand, and often wondered where such matchless skill in capturing pickerel and catfish could have found growth. But when on the bold stream issuing from the density of the Sullivan County woods, armed with the coachman or yellow-sally, my companion laid down his arms at my feet. The most cautious and alert of untamed things, the trout, challenges a prowess not thrust promiscuously upon the sons of men. It is a special gift.

With every yard square of that noble sheet of water, largest of Pennsylvania lakes, Daddy Emmons was familiar. The places where, at different times of the day, bait shiners could be scooped up with his net, and at what spots, at different hours, lay the largest of the fish he sought.

A man may be good on water, without much knowledge of woodcraft. This was once demonstrated when the old fisherman undertook to guide Geo. Lear, of the Buck County bar and myself from the north shore of the lake to Beaver Run. We wished to

reach the run at the foot of the great meadow. It was once a meadow, but of late years an inextricable confusion of alders, through which the stream found its way, a mile or so in extent. Instead of reaching it below the jungle, our conductor brought us in above. Our Bucks County friend started in first. A short distance brought him to the alders. We found his track, where he had penetrated the tangled undergrowth, but that was all. The future Attorney General of the Commonwealth was lost. In hunting for him, having wound up our lines, we got lost too. don't know how many hours we wandered in the dismal slough, chiefly in circles, but Squire Kocher, hunting his cattle, found and rescued us. Mr. Lear, getting out upon a log road followed it to the lake, and a lad of Judge Barnum's rowed him across to the hotel.

There was a pleasing simplicity and honest candor in this old navigator of the lake, that commended him to the regard of men far above him in social rank. Judge Paxson of our Supreme Bench, for many years a summer resident at the celebrated resort, spent his days in company of Daddy Emmons. Their communion was a pleasant thing to behold, and the distinguished jurist, in common with many others, will ever bear a kindly remembrance of this old piscatorial veteran; deploring the sad catastrophe that hastened his descent to the tomb.

C. E. WRIGHT.

#### Septuagenarian Birthday Anniversaries.

A pleasant birthday dinner was given by Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Blodgett at their old homestead in Buttonwood on Saturday, March 17, to their children, grand children and great grand children. Mr. Blodgett was 79 years of age Sunday, and Mrs. Blodgett 76 on Thursday last. They celebrated their golden wedding four years ago. Mr. Blodgett is widely known throughout this section of the state, especially in Wyoming Valley, where he has spent much of his time in trapping and hunting.

There were present Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Blodgett and daughter, of Delano; Mr. Thos. Blodgett and Mrs. J. Brown, of Ashley; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Blodgett and Miss Kate Lazarus, of Buttonwood; and from this city Mr. and Mrs. Ziba Gruver and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Rinehelmer and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Davenport and family, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Blodgett, Mrs. Harvey and Edward Gruver and Mrs. A. Herring. Mr. Blodgett has not been well for some time, but Mrs. Blodgett enjoys very good health.

## MORE ABOUT KING NUTIMUS.

John W. Jordan, of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, Gives Some Additional Information About this Chieftain who Figured in Early Wyoming Affairs.

EDITOR HISTORICAL RECORD: The sketch of "King Nutimus," of Nescopeck, in your January number contains a statement that the old King was "largely, if not entirely responsible" for the burning and plundering of Gnadenhuetten, on the Mahoning, etc., which I desire to correct.

*Notamaes*, the proper name of this chieftain, which signifies a *spear or gig to strike fish with*, was always a warm friend of the Moravians, before the Indian wars and to his death. He frequently visited Bethlehem, where he was entertained hospitably, and whenever their missionaries visited Nescopeck, he gladly reciprocated.

There is in the Archives of the Moravian Church at Bethlehem a MS. of David Zeisberger's in which he states: "The party that made the assault [on Gnadenhuetten] was composed of *Monseys* and numbered twelve. It was led by *Jacheapus*, the chief of *Assinissink* [a *Monsey* town in Stenben Co., N. Y.] And further, the diaries of the *Friedenshuetten* (Wyalusing) mission, which I edited a few years since, contain this notice: "July 14, 1763—News reached here that *Jacheapus*, the *Monsey* who had fired *Gnadenhuetten* had died of small-pox up at *Sir William Johnsons*" He had been taken prisoner during the *Pontiac* War, and died in captivity.

The Diary of Bethlehem Congregation contains the following under date 11 Aug., 1767: "To day we learned that one of the chiefs who had attacked *Gnadenhuetten* and had carried off *Susan Nitschmann* [a member of the mission family] was killed by an Indian, not far from *Easton*, on the pretext that he was a *French* spy. *Notamaes* told us how he had advised him not to attack us on the *Mahoning*, but scarcely had he left *Nescopeck*, but he took his way thither." From this evidence it is certain that the old king of *Nescopeck* cannot be accused of the massacre of *Gnadenhuetten*.

Permit me to add a few more items of this family extracted from the journal of Bishop John von Watteville, the diaries of the Bethlehem congregation, and a MS. of John Heckewelder, in my possession.

In the autumn of 1748 Bishop von Watteville, with Bishop Cammerhoff and David Zeisberger and John Martin Mack, visited the Wyoming Valley.

Oct. 10—We came to the falls at *Nescopeck*, where we had *Zeisberger* take the horses and with them follow the river on its north

side. *Cammerhoff*, *Mack* and I went down the hill to the *Susquehanna* and shouted for a canoe. Hereupon *Pantes*, the third son of *Notamaes*, (the Governor of *Nescopeck*.) tastily painted and decked with feathers, came and set us over the river. We gave him a silver buckle for his trouble. On entering the town, we went to the Governor's house (more spacious than any I had yet seen among the Indians) in which he and his five sons with their wives and children live together. We found, however, no one but *Pantes*, his brother *Joe*, and women at home. Seated around the fire we conversed with them some time. On taking leave, we kept on down the *Susquehanna* to call upon the Governor and his other sons at their plantation, one and a half miles lower down. We were soon met by one of their cousins with a negro, for the Governor of *Nescopeck* has five slaves—a negress' four children. Negroes are regarded by the Indians as despicable creatures. On coming to *Nescopeck Creek*, which is about half as wide as the *Lehigh* at *Bethlehem*, (it was running high in its channel by reason of the late rains), and having neither horses or canoe, we were compelled to wade it—the water rapid and leg-deep. It was the first time in my life that I waded in water. Having crossed the stream, we met *Isaac*, one of sons, and a short distance farther the old Governor himself, who greeted us cordially. I presented him with a pair of *scarlet cawsches*. To all that was said he would indicate his assent with the word *Kehello*. Going farther we came to the plantation, where we visited in four huts. In one was a stranger Indian (not a member of the family), in one were children, and in the third an old squaw. The fourth hut belonged to *Ben*, old *Nutimaes*' fourth son. He had just returned from the hunt and welcomed us very cordially. We sat with him a short time, and I took a great liking to a child of his. *Mack* gave him a pipe-tube, and then he set us over the river in a canoe, where we met *David Zeisberger* with the horses. After we had partaken of our noonday meal, *Ben* came over to us and gave us a fine deer-roat, when we presented him with a silver buckle and needles and thread for his wife.

1754, March 29 "At noon came old *Notamaes*, chief of *Nescopeck*, with his two eldest sons, and his negro and negress, on his journey to the *Jersey*. . . . April 29. "*Notamaes* and company passed through on their way home."

1755, June 2 "The *Nescopeck* Indians came here for food, as they are half starved." [A great drought prevailed in the Wyoming Valley from April to July of that year.]

1757, Sept 1 "*Notamaes*' son, who came from *Nescopeck* for some Indian corn for his sick folks, returned home. He told us

his father did not wish to move to Diahoga [Tioga] but remain in Nescopeek."—*Bethlehem Diary*.

A few years after the family were residing on the Great Island, on the West Branch, and on the removal of the Delawares to Ohio two of his sons were of the number. Heckewelder states: "Isaac and Pantes were both amiable men and respected by the whites. Isaac having a mechanical turn of mind, soon learned the use of tools and became a pretty good blacksmith, a trade which he followed wherever he moved to, and during his life time, delighting in nothing more than in a handsome corn-hoe, tomhawk and other instruments made out of iron and steel, by his own hands. He generally settled himself a short distance from the town, where he would have his cornfield at hand and under good fence, with some fruit trees planted in it next to his house. Preferring manual labor to that of legislating, he altogether declined serving in that capacity. Both died in Ohio."

JOHN W. JORDAN.

Philadelphia, March 5, 1868.

An Evangelist of 50 Years Ago.

EDITOR RECORD: Several references have been made in your paper to Rev. Daniel Baker and his preaching in Wilkes Barre, and I am the only one now living who took part in that work of grace which resulted in the salvation of many. I believe that I was the only one in the valley who was acquainted with Rev. Daniel Baker when he came, except his brother Mr. John Baker, and family who lived not far from the residence of Mr. Edward Welles in Barnum Court.

Mr. John Baker was a thoroughly educated man, but his health failing he was advised by physicians to cultivate the earth with his own hands, which he did with much pleasure and success.

I found him one day holding his plow behind a very powerful horse which he drove. He was a man highly esteemed by all who knew him. As I was a wee bit of a farmer myself I enjoyed the scene.

Rev. John Dorrance brought Mr. Baker to see me on his arrival, and invited me to take part in the meeting which was contemplated. This I was very willing to do, and the prayer before the sermon, and attendance in the inquiry meeting was assigned me.

Brother Baker had preached for me in St. Augustine, Fla., and a precious revival was the result. Before he entered upon the sermon, he seated himself in the clerk's chair and sang the hymn, of which the first line is, "Blow ye the Trumpet, Blow" to the end. After his sermon he gave out the following

hymn, "Haste, O! Sinner, to be Wise, Stay Not for To-morrow's Sun." His first sermon, both in Wilkes-Barre and in St. Augustine, was from the Epistle to the Corinthians, "Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, took upon him the form of a servant," etc.

In his delivery he was thoroughly in earnest and solemn, but unimpassioned and self collected. He had an iron constitution and preached three times a day.

The blessed result of the meeting is well known, and is still felt in Wilkes-Barre. The holy spirit seemed to permeate the place. The people generally expected to be personally appealed to and felt slighted if they were not.

It was pleasant to work in the vineyard where starting out with a prayerful frame of mind, the spirit would bring you in contact with the very persons you wished to see and ought to labor with.

The hearts of christian ladies thrilled with delight when they saw their husbands coming to Christ.

Parents rejoiced over the conversion of their children.

The pastor of the Presbyterian church, Rev. John Dorrance, was very judicious and happy in his arrangements during the meeting. The church loved him and the world had confidence in him.

E. HAZARD SNOWDEN.

Towns of Parkersbury and Huntington.

EDITOR RECORD: On page 218, Vol. I, of *Historical Record*, is a copy of the entries for a few days in a diary, kept by Deacon John Hurlbut, in 1778, in which the towns of Parkersbury and Huntington, are mentioned, and Mr. H. B. Plumb, who furnished the copy, expressed a desire to learn where those towns were located.

A careful consideration of the facts stated in the diary, seems to show clearly that the two towns adjoined each other, and covered the valley of the Wallenpaupack, the town of Parkersbury, lying mostly in what is now Palmyra Township, in Pike county, though probably some of it extended across "the river" into Wayne county.

The Wallenpaupack is the larger branch of the Lackawaxen river, and was by the early settlers always called Lackawack or Lackawaxen; and the settlement there was by the Connecticut settlers there and at Wyoming called the "Lackawack settlement."

It is evident from the diary, that what is recorded as having occurred previous to May 24, was all in this "Lackawack settlement," and that on the 24th, Deacon Hurlbut, started from there on a journey to Wyoming. He states that about 10 o'clock

he crossed the "Lackawack river, (Wallenpaupack) and went that day about 32 miles to Lackawanna. After spending a few days among the Wyoming settlers, he on 27th returning to the Lackawack settlement at Parksbury. His record of that return seems to clearly show the locality of Parksbury. He writes "came through Caporos (Capouse) great hill," not over it, but through the gorge by which the Boaring brook enters the Lackawanna Valley, and after crossing into what is now Wayne County, "through the Great Swamp, and at night come to Halle's Ferry, (Wallenpaupack) and so to the fort." This fort was in what he call Parksbury. The next day he writes, "Settled my affairs at Parksbury with the settlers."

In regard to the locality of the "Great Swamp," Samuel Preston, an early settler in Wayne County, wrote in his diary in November, 1783, that "on the 6th near sunset he arrived at the house of Jacob Stanton on the Wyoming road  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of the north and south road ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Hamlington) and lodged there that night." That "in the morning of 7th he rose early, and pursued his journey Eastward through the great swamp, seven miles to the Wallenpaupack. Here a man named Willis ferried me over, for there is no fording. I took breakfast and fed at his house and proceeded eastward on my journey."

The descendants of the early settlers have a tradition that the early settlers from Connecticut laid out two Towns, one of which included the settlement they called *Lackawack*, (or Lackaway) and the other *Bozrah*. This *Lackawack* must have included what Dea. Huribut called *Parksbury*.

JOHN TORRAX.

Honesdale, Pa.

#### The Old Church on the Square.

Something over thirty years have elapsed since a party of us stood by the Anshizer store to witness the steeple of the old church tumble from its elevated perch. There was a mooted question beforehand, after what manner the structure would accomplish the feat. The matter was quickly decided when the carpenters cut the last tie. The tottering mass wavered slightly from the perpendicular. There was an inclination towards the south. A slow movement at first, but when fairly under way, with accurate precision it plunged top downward—the spire piercing the ground to the depth of several feet.

I am not prepared to say in what year this building was erected. But there is no time

within my recollection, when its bell did not announce the hour of nine at night. Michael was the bellman, and his punctuality was wonderful. His silver cased watch, with its ornamental chain, was the legal standard of time. When it announced the hour of nine pm., the bell was rung a space, then a proper pause, and next its taps indicated the day of the month. Young gentlemen out visiting were expected to take note of this and govern themselves accordingly.

Perhaps no person had ever a more distinctive position in town affairs than this faithful German. Never was he idle, sick or derelict in discharge of duty. Besides discharging nameless municipal tasks he was an important auxiliary in the routine of divine service. A sort of ecclesiastical gendarme. His position was in the gallery, where, with a hawk's vigilance he watched the urchins on all sides. His eye, his threatening finger and scowling visage awed and intimidated the youthful miscreant disposed to indulge in a whisper or a giggle.

Mr. Gildersleeve was the first minister I was acquainted with, officiating in the old church. He was then well advanced in years, with a slight impediment in speech. A man of handsome person and courtly manner. He was rather sound and learned than eloquent. Mrs. Oist was the organist, and her musical requirements were highly appreciated.

Then came Nicholas Murray, a resplendant star. He produced a great impression. He had the courage of a lion; a trenchant tongue and voice that inspired awe. He would have been a grand man at the head of an army. To the emotion of fear he was a stranger. When denunciation was required he could strike giant blows.

I remember him in his early manhood as a man short of stature, black hair, keen eyes, a square, well formed face, indicating intellect and bravery.

It was possibly in his time the Presbyterians removed to their new edifice on Franklin Street, and from that epoch I had little familiarity with services in the church on the square. My only remembrance being, that possibly about the year 1832, Geo. W. Woodward and Ovid F. Johnson delivered addresses there on the Fourth of July. And at another time Father Moister conducted revival services in it with signal success. He had not been long from the Old Country, and his song of the Land ofanaan made great impression. He was a mechanic. That he was a most earnest laborer in the Master's vineyard, all who knew him could avouch. Six days he would labor at his trade. The seventh walk cheerfully ten miles to preach the word of eternal life. O. E. WIGGAM.

March 16, 1886.

**Gone to Rest.**

At the residence of her son, Alexander Farnham, Esq., in this city, Sunday, April 8, at 4:15 pm., Mary F. Farnham, widow of Dr. John P. Farnham, late of Carbondale, passed peacefully from earth. Mrs. Farnham had been ill just two weeks, of pneumonia. The last years of her life had been spent in this city. For many years she resided at Carbondale, where her husband in his younger life was a practicing physician, afterwards engaging largely in mercantile pursuits. From Kulp's Families of the Wyoming Valley, we learn that Mrs. Farnham's maiden name was Mary Frances Steere, of Norwich, N. Y., who was a daughter of Mark Steere, of Providence, R. I., who for several years prior to the war of 1812 was engaged in the West India trade, and during that war was captured in his own ship, the Comet. He was kept a prisoner for about a year, and subsequently released. After the war he removed to Norwich, N. Y.

Mrs. Farnham leaves three children, Alexander, the well and favorably known attorney of this city; Clarence, who is engaged in business in Scranton; and Mrs. Abbott, wife of Rev. B. H. Abbott, an Episcopal clergyman, who lives at Carbondale.

Mrs. Farnham's long life was filled with love and kindness to all. She will be missed, but like a shock of corn that is ripe, she has been gathered to her reward.

The funeral exercises over the remains of Mrs. Mary F. Farnham took place Tuesday noon, at the residence of her son, Alexander Farnham, on South Street. Revs. Messrs. Jones and Hayden, and Rev. Dr. Hodge officiated.

Beautiful floral offerings were sent by friends, notably a sheaf of ripened grain, a sickle, a bunch of palm leaves and lilies, and at the foot of the coffin a cluster of Bermuda lilies. The musical exercises were conducted by Mrs. R. B. Brundage, Miss Brundage and Messrs. J. Butler Woodward and Thomas Darling, whose voices blended most beautifully, and whose singing was unusually sympathetic. The selections were the chants, "Now let me know mine end," and "I heard a voice from Heaven," together with the familiar hymn, "Jesus, Savior of my soul." The entire service was remarkably touching in character and was attended by a large concourse of sympathizing friends.

It had been the expressed wish of Mrs. Farnham that the interment be private, and her wishes were carried out to the letter. Accordingly at 3 pm. the private interment took place in Hollenback Cemetery, attended simply by the male mourners and the pall bearers, who were Isaac P. Hand, Col. R. y-nolds, Charles F. Hunt, A. R. Brundage and

E. H. Chase, Esq., and Col. Charles M. Conyngham, Rev. Mr. Hayden officiating.

**Thomas Davis Worden.**

[Communicated.]

Dr. Worden was born June 18, 1858, in Trenton, Oneida Co., N. Y. In his thirteenth year his father removed to Fort Plain, Montgomery Co., N. Y. Dr. Worden's father and mother were both musically inclined and from babyhood this, their only son and child, evinced rare musical talent, both vocal and instrumental. He seemed to grasp, with little effort, the technique of every instrument he touched, so that at the age of six years he could readily execute common music upon the violin and piano. From his thirteenth to his sixteenth year he passed with credit through the course laid down in the Fort Plain Public schools. Then after taking a commercial course and spending two years in business, he entered Cazenovia Seminary in August, 1871, where for two years he continued his preparation for college. In the fall of 1883 he entered the College of Liberal Arts of Syracuse University, where he remained during the full term of four years, pursuing the Latin Scientific course, and graduating in June, 1877, with the degree of B. Ph.

In the fall of 1877 he entered the Albany Medical College, securing, at the same time, a very advantageous position in the office of Dr. Van Der Veer, Albany's famous surgeon. Here Dr. Worden remained for three years, attending lectures at the college, devoting himself assiduously to his studies, especially microscopy in the office, and obtaining that practical knowledge of medicine and surgery that can be obtained only by intimate association with a great physician. In May, 1880, he received his degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College, with a large class of which he was the popular and unquestioned leader and for whom he therefore pronounced the valedictory.

At the urgent request of Dr. Van Der Veer, Dr. Worden opened an office in Albany immediately after graduating and near that of his preceptor. Dr. Warden's rare social qualities, and his musical abilities had won for him a wide acquaintance and friendship in the capitol city, so that the books of the young physician, even during the first two months of his practice showed promise of instant and unlimited success. But the strain of nine years constant, severe study had been too heavy, and in July, 1880, Dr. Worden was attacked with pluryisy so severely that his life was despaired of for many weeks. His magnificent physique carried him through, but it was not until March, 1881, that he felt ready to resume his profession. As he was about to return to Albany, he received a most urgent request



to visit Europe as the attending physician of ex Attorney General Martindale, of New York, who wished to visit Europe, in the vain hope of relief from an incurable disease. The delicate state of Dr Worden's health induced him to comply with this request, and accordingly he sailed for Europe with Gen. Martindale in June, 1881. But the predictions of Gen. Martindale's American physicians proved only too correct, and he died at Nice, shortly after reaching Europe, though cared for and skilfully attended by his young friend till the last. Dr. Worden thereupon availed himself of his presence in Europe by traveling at some length, and by spending several months in practical observations in the great hospitals of London and Paris.

Meanwhile, and as early as the time of his graduation at Albany, he had been repeatedly urged to become a member of the medical staff of the famous Saratoga Sanitarium. And the inducements offered at last became so great that Dr. Worden decided to give up his practice at Albany and to devote himself to his specialty at Saratoga. He accordingly completed a contract with Dr. Strong before returning from Europe, and from the spring of 1882 to the spring of 1885, he did most efficient service at Saratoga. The monuments of his skill and his gentle cheerfulness are to be found in scores of happy, healthy people throughout the land, ever ready to speak a benediction to the memory of the young physician, who made their sorrows his own and who lifted them out of the valley of the shadow. It was during his practice at Saratoga that he met Miss Anne Scott Paine. Doubtless few of our citizens have forgotten the brilliant and beautiful wedding ceremonies of 1888. But during the last few years of Dr. Worden's practice at Saratoga the burden of care and labor again became too great even for a man of his constitution. By the absence and the illness of the older members of the staff the whole burden of the management and responsibility was often thrown upon his shoulders.

Determined not to risk a repetition of the experience in 1880, he resigned his position at Saratoga, to the intense regret of many friends and patients, and removed to Wilkes-Barre, where, for a time, he entered upon business relations with his father-in-law, Mr. L. C. Paine, but it was never Dr. Worden's intention to give up his profession permanently. He regarded his business life in Wilkes-Barre simply as a resting time in preparation for his great life work. During the last two years at Saratoga he had nearly completed, ready for publication, a translation of the great medical work of Bani Borde, an eminent French physician.

Certainly, if ever a man seemed to have before him the most brilliant success and the most perfect earthly happiness; certainly, if ever a man seemed to be needed by society, in every sense, that man was Thomas D. Worden. But the fatal seeds had been sown in 1880, and in February, 1887, one of his lungs was found to be in such a condition as to necessitate an immediate change of climate. He therefore went at once with his wife and one child to Colorado Springs, where he remained until shortly before his death. Until October, 1887, he was able to be absent and seemed to be gaining under the stimulus of Colorado air, but the gain was only apparent, and in October he took his bed never to leave it without help. The tubercular affection of his lungs gradually spread to the kidneys and other organs. The agony which was suffered from October to the day of his death by him who had relieved the pain of so many suffering ones, was such as would have overcome most men in half the time. Everything was done that could be done by the best physicians, the best trained nurses and constant attention of a devoted wife, but all in vain. In February, 1888, his physical suffering was augmented by the mental pain caused by the death of the mother to whom he had always been a most devoted and dutiful son. Fearing that the end was near he longed to return to his afflicted father, and so he was borne by gentle hands back to his boyhood home. He reached Fort Plain on March 27th, last, but little wearied by the trip and more hopeful, but a thorough examination by his old preceptor, Dr. Van Der Veer, soon convinced the latter that the hope was groundless. It was expected, however, by all his friends, that he might linger several weeks, so that his death on Thursday, April 19, at 12 o'clock was a great shock.

He was conscious almost to the last, and died while his lips were forming the names of his Savior and his earthly dear ones. Throughout his illness he talked freely and frequently of spiritual things and he passed away in the full assurance of an undimmed faith. At the time of his death he was a communicant of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church, of this city.

On entering Syracuse University Dr. Worden became a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity of which he remained a loyal and beloved member till his death. During his seminary and college course he made use of his musical talents only as a means of recreation as a favor to his friends, but during his medical course he was connected with one of the leading church quartets of Albany and achieved a reputation throughout the state as a baritone. Perhaps Dr. Worden's chief mental

faithful discharge of the duties of a kind wife and loving mother has contributed by her abiding trust in God to bring happiness around their home.

He leaves a large family of sons and daughters, who have grown up under the paternal roof. His highest pleasure was in the enjoyment of his children and his grandchildren, who will mourn his death.

Mr. Weir was born in Oathcart, Scotland. He was a true Scotchman, and although proud of his native land and its ancestry, yet he was a true and loyal citizen of the land of his adoption. He was well versed in Scottish history, and his memory was good up to his last. It was a pleasure to hear him describe scenes of 70 years ago, making the listener, even though aged, feel as if he were a boy again. But our friend is gone and we would not call him back. May the place he has left vacant in his family circle be filled up with the love of Christ, and his memory to his affectionate friends be a stimulant for all that was good in their departed friend.

J. T. W.

#### The Last of a Pioneer Family.

Miss Maria Sturdevant died at her residence in Skinner's Eddy, Wyoming County, Pa., on Wednesday evening, April 19, 1888. Her age was 80 years, she having been born in Braintrim Township, Wyoming County, Pa., in December, 1808. She was the last of a large family of brothers and sisters. Her brothers were Major John Sturdevant, Gen. E. W. Sturdevant, L. D. Sturdevant and Charles Sturdevant, all of whom died within the past few years, aged respectively 83, 78, 82 and 76 years.

Her father, Samuel Sturdevant, emigrated from Connecticut in 1793 and settled upon the banks of the Susquehanna River forty miles above the Wyoming Valley, where he became a man of large influence in business and religious circles.

Miss Sturdevant's mother was in the Wyoming Fort during the massacre in 1778. She was the daughter of John N. Skinner, whose father was one of the old men left in charge of the fort during the battle of Wyoming.

The subject of this sketch\* was a quiet, gentle friend, about whom but little more can be said than that she had ever pursued the more peaceful walks of life, and that she was a woman of generous impulses, full of charity towards her neighbors, and that she passed peacefully away under the shadow of the same old mountain, where she was born 80 years ago.

Funeral service was held April 21 at the old Sturdevant home at 3 o'clock.

#### A Distinguished Man's Widow Dead.

[Communicated.]

Mrs. Ann Wilmot, widow of David Wilmot, died at Towanda on Sunday, March 25. Mrs. Wilmot was a daughter of Thomas W. Morgan, an old-time resident of Wilkes-Barre, who at one time kept the—of that day—famous Arndt hotel, which stood on the ground now occupied by the fine residence of E. P. Darling, on River Street, near South. He was also proprietor of "Morgan's mill," on Solomon's Creek, since known as "Petty's mill," which was recently destroyed by fire. There were four sons of the Morgan family—John, Edward, Thomas and Charles W., all being dead except the latter. Of daughters there were Bell, Ann and Cassie. These are all dead except Cassie, who married a Mr. Reed and is now a widow living at Towanda.

Young Wilmot was a law student in Wilkes-Barre, where he met and married Miss Morgan, who was at that time a noted belle of the old town. Mr. Wilmot removed to Bradford county, became a prominent lawyer was elected to Congress, where he brought forward the famous "proviso" bearing his name, the echo of which was heard round the world in its day, and had not a little to do with directing important affairs of the national policy. Of the Wilmot family, no sons or daughters remain to transmit to posterity the honored name. One son born to the house died in boyhood, having been accidentally poisoned by eating the root of the wild parsnip, mistaking it for edible root, for which he mistook that fatal plant. Mrs. Wilmot, we are informed had been a confirmed invalid for a number of years, and had therefore dropped out of view of society she was so well calculated to adorn.

W. J.

#### Another Old House Gone.

The story and a half frame building at the northeast corner of Main and North Streets was demolished on recently, it having become used up. It was on the Ziba Bennett property and originally stood where the Bennett homestead stands, Main Street, above Public Square. It was of curious construction and nobody knows how old it was. The roof boards were of oak. Between the weather boarding and the lath and plaster was a layer of sun-dried bricks.

#### Is It an Indian Lead Mine?

It is said that an ancient lead mine somewhere on the Meshoppen Creek will be prospected for this summer. It is claimed that the Indians used to obtain lead for bullets, etc., in that section and it is hoped that the ore bed can be discovered. It is thought to be in the vicinity of Vose.—*Tunkhannock Age*.

**Another Good Man Gone.**

Rev. W. A. Wagner, of Plains, a highly respected citizen passed away to the spirit world after a long and painful illness of three years, Sunday evening, April 8, 1888.

He was born in Plains, and at the time of his death was in his 57th year. His grandfather was one of the number who bore an honorable part in the Revolutionary struggle. Early in life he had a great desire for an education and attended the Harford Academy. He afterward taught school and read law in the office of R. B. Little, of Montrose. He subsequently united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and received license to preach and attend to the office of a deacon.

He settled in Plains and there resided for many years among his old neighbors and friends. In early life he was united in marriage to Miss Anna E. Gunton, with whom he lived happily. To them were born four children, one son and three daughters, who live to mourn the loss of their father.

Funeral services under the direction of the pastor, Rev. S. Elwell, Wednesday at the residence at 1 o'clock and at the Methodist Episcopal Church at 2 o'clock.

**Death of a Well Known Methodist.**

Scores of **EMOND** readers will be surprised to hear of the death of Elisha Harris, which occurred at his home, Harris Hill, near Carverton, Sunday, April 15, 1888. He had been sick since the Tuesday previous, at which time he was stricken with paralysis. He had been during his whole life almost, a member of the Methodist Church, and he has seen that denomination develop its strength in this region, from the days of the circuit riders, when one minister supplied from three to half a dozen pulpits, each of them miles away from any other. His recollections of those early days have formed the theme of many a conversation or public testimony. He held for many years a local preacher's license, and speaking as he did, not from the standpoint of a man of deep erudition, but from the earnestness, and fire, and courage of his convictions, his efforts, many of them, were of great power. As an exhorter he was best known, and at the Wyoming Camp meeting his figure was as familiar as the place itself. Often, when revival services were in progress at the camp ground, and there seemed lacking that spirit and enthusiasm considered so necessary, "Uncle Elijah" has been called upon to exhort. He never failed to respond, and the occasion was rare indeed, when he did not wrestle victory from apparent defeat, by the contagious and irresistible force of his words.

For nearly 80 years, he bore the brunt of battle, taking the storm with the sunshine,

as a thorough Christian. He never failed to attend religious exercises whenever it was possible, and he would rather have endured almost any extremity rather than miss the annual camp meeting. He was an honest, upright citizen, consistency itself, so it is said. He leaves a wife and two sons, Malory and Ziba, both of whom live at home. The funeral occurred on April 18, at 1 o'clock from the house, and at 2 o'clock from the Carverton M. E. Church.

**In Memory of Thomas Weir.**

[Communicated.]

Death has again visited Plymouth, and taken from among us an old and highly respected friend, Mr. Thomas Weir. The Master was kind to him, granting to him a long and useful life, and allowing him to lay down to rest at the ripe age of 79 years.

Mr. Weir was a man who had strong convictions of the right. He was no friend to flattery, preferring always the substance to the shadow. He was unassuming in his daily walks of life, but from his boyhood to manhood he took pleasure in being in unison with his fellow men in all things which constituted true manhood. He was conservative in his views, and it required an intimate acquaintance to know the true character of the man.

Mr. Weir felt independent in enjoying a comfortable home of his own, which he had earned by honest and hard toil. His highest enjoyment was to see his family and his friends happy around him. Animals found a kind friend in him. He enjoyed a good garden and surroundings, and felt thankful to God for the many blessings and comforts bestowed. His recreation, when a young man, was often taken with his dog and gun, his fishing rod, hook and line. These healthy exercises in the open air gave him a robust constitution, and also tended to develop his mind. Although a miner he was well informed on the principles of mechanism, and in his day had been engineer on nearly every style of engines. He had an inventive mind, and the writer, who has seen much of his handiwork, feels satisfied had he been trained properly, he would have made a master mechanic.

But the most skilful and talented workman, when the Master calls, must lay down his tools, and those of my lamented friend, which he took so much genuine pleasure in handling, have been for the last few years, owing to his age, left to rest in their respective places. He has finished his work here, and we fondly hope and trust he is in the enjoyment of that blessed home which is ever open and welcome to the faithful.

He leaves behind him a faithful wife, one who has shared with him a long and useful life—one who by her encouraging words and

characteristic was the height of his ideals. He was never satisfied with any mediocre achievement. Added to this was a happy combination of moral qualities which won for him everywhere hosts of friends but no enemies. He was a natural leader among men and he always fell at once into leadership. Besides his faithful wife and sadly afflicted father, he leaves a little daughter of two and one-half years, to mourn his loss and to be inspired by the father's noble life.

## IN MEMORIAM.

By the side of a calm-flowing river  
Where the flowers turn their brows to the west,  
Where the beams of the sunset light quiver,  
We have bidden the weary one, "Rest."  
And the voice of the sweet-flowing river,  
Like the life of the sleeper so near—  
Like the life of the Son of the Giver,  
Is gentle and steady and clear.  
And the river flows on, never ceasing;  
Bearing blessing to all in its way,  
And the flow of his soul, ne'er decreasing,  
Shall bless us forever and aye.  
Oh, Father, we bend to thy chast'ning;  
Like the flowers, turn our eyes to the West—  
For our lives, like the river, are hast'ning—  
Like the sleeper, we soon, too, shall rest.  
But we look through the sunset's faint glory,  
Past the stream of our fast-flowing years,  
To the land of the new, olden story,  
Where the sleepers shall wake without tears.  
—J. S. Clark.

## Funeral of Dr. Worden.

The funeral of the late Dr. Thomas D. Worden took place from the residence of his father-in-law, L. O. Paine, on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Rev. H. E. Hayden read the service and the singing was by a quartet comprising Mrs. and Miss Brundage, B. A. Spalding and G. Adolph Baur. There were some exquisite floral tributes. After the service the friends dispersed and the interment was made later, being private. The pall bearers were William M. Shumaker, A. H. Dickson, H. H. Derr, A. F. Derr, F. V. Rockafellow and J. G. Miller.

The remains were accompanied from Fort Plain, N. Y., by Dr. Worden's widow and father, and by Prof. J. S. Clark, of Syracuse University, who was a co-guest of deceased, as also best man at his wedding.

## Death of Mrs. Wesley Johnson.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, a little after 8 am., Mrs. Wesley Johnson sank peacefully and painlessly into her last sleep, after an illness of more than a year's duration. Some 15 months ago Mrs. Johnson met with a fall which injured one of her hip joints so severely that she became permanently cripp-

pled. During the weary months that followed there developed a general breaking down, complicated towards the last with a racking cough and the appearance of an internal abscess, which is supposed to have discharged into the abdominal cavity, with speedily fatal effect. Though for many months a continual sufferer, Mrs. Johnson's last hours were painless, she having fallen into a gentle sleep from which there proved to be no awakening.

Frances H. Johnson was the only daughter of Seth Wilson, an old resident of Wilkes-Barre, and she was born here in 1815. Her mother was Rebecca, a daughter of Abel Yarrington, one of the pioneers of the valley. Another daughter of Mr. Yarrington was the wife of Arnold Colt, whose daughter, Temperance, married Pierce Butler, and another, Julia, was the wife of the late Hon. Andrew Beaumont. Another, Mary, better known as Polly, was the wife of Sharp D. Lewis, Esq. Deceased first married Frederick McAlpine, who died in 1854, leaving a son and daughter, Andrew W. McAlpine and Lizzie M. McAlpine, both of this city. The latter is still a member of the family of her step father, Wesley Johnson, to whom her mother was united in marriage in 1856. One daughter, Margaret, was born of the last marriage, but she died when about five years of age. For the last forty years and more, deceased had been a regular attendant at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. One brother, Andrew Beaumont Wilson, died in Texas about 40 years ago. Henry Colt Wilson is a prosperous farmer, living near Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

The esteem in which the late Mrs. Wesley Johnson was held, was evidenced by the large throng of friends who assembled at the house April 23 to pay their last respects. The house was densely thronged, and although a large number of extra chairs were provided, many persons were compelled to stand. The body lay in the darkened parlor, at the head of the coffin a beautiful floral pillow with the word Mother. On the coffin lid was a bunch of ripened grain. The features were peaceful, and the only indication of the long months of suffering, was the looking older than in life. Rev. Horace E. Hayden read the Episcopal burial service, the vocal portion of which was rendered with exquisite sweetness as well as touching sympathy, by a quartet comprising Miss Hillman, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Spalding and Mr. Barr. The interment took place in Hollenback Cemetery, on an elevation affording one of the prettiest of the many beautiful views of mountain and valley, scattered through the city of the dead. The pall bearers were George B. Knip, O. M. Brandow, Col. B. F. Stark, Marcus Smith, Major O. A. Parsons and J. M. Courtright.

## THE PENNAMITE WAR.

Some Unpublished Correspondence Relating to One of the Events of the Unhappy Struggle, as Preserved in the Diary of Christopher Hurlbut.

[Contributed by H. B. Plumb.]

The following list contains all the names of Wyoming Yankee prisoners seized by the fraud and treachery of Col. Armstrong, Aug. 10th, 1784, and sent to Easton jail, charged by him with murder:

*Dr. Miner.* Was not sent to jail as he was laid up in bed with a wound received in the fight at Locust Hill.

*Major Abbott* (Joel), of Wilkes-Barre. Escaped at Lerner's. Sketch of the Abbott family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Waterman Baldwin.* Had been a soldier in the Revolutionary army in Capt. Durkee's company, and afterward in Capt. Spalding's company to the end of the war. He escaped at Lerner's, on the way to Easton. In 1798 was First Major in the Second Regiment, Pa. Militia (see Dr. Egle's article in *Historical Record*, vol. 2, p. 62).

*William Ross.* A Wilkes-Barre man. Had been one of Capt. John Franklin's militia, 1778 to 1782-3. He escaped at Heller's. Sketch of him in Miner's Wyoming. Died, Aug. 9, 1842.

*William Slocum.* of Wilkes-Barre. Had been one of John Franklin's militia, 1778, with his brother Giles, but on the reorganization, probably in 1780, after Sullivan's expedition, William dropped out. Giles stayed in till 1782-3. They were brothers to the "Lost Sister," Miner's Wyoming.

*Joseph Corey.* of Hanover. Had been a pupil in John Hurlbut, Jr.'s, school in Hanover, 1779-80. Had belonged to Franklin's militia, 1780-82. In 1798 was ensign in the Second Co., Third Regiment, Pa. Militia (see Dr. Egle in *Historical Record*, vol. 2, p. 62). Very short sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Gideon Church.* of Kingston. Had been a soldier in Ransom's company, and then in Spalding's consolidated company to the end of the war, 1783. His brother Nathaniel also served to the end of the war. Sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Nathaniel Cook.* Only the name is known to the writer.

*Benjamin Jenkins.* of Kingston, brother of Lieut. John Jenkins. Lieut. John Jenkins was with his company in Sullivan's expedition into the Indian country in New York, in 1779. Lieut. Col. Second Regiment, Pa. Militia, 1793.

*William Jenkins.* of Kingston. Brother of Lieut. John Jenkins, of Spalding's com-

pany, in the revolutionary army. Sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Abraham Pike,* Sergeant Pike, known as the "Indian Killer," was a deserter from the British Army. Had fought on the American side; was in the Wyoming battle and massacre, July 3, 1778, and escaped; was a Plymouth man.

*Lord Butler.* of Wilkes-Barre, son of Col. Zebulon Butler; was with his father in the army during the Revolutionary war. Sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*John Hurlbut.* of Hanover, son of "Deacon" John Hurlbut. He, with his brother, Christopher, had served a year in the Revolutionary Army; was at the battles of White Plains, Trenton and Princeton. Had been a sergeant in Capt. Franklin's militia 1780-83; taught school in Hanover 1779-80. His brother Nathaniel was a lieutenant in 8th Co., 3d Regt. Pa. Militia in 1798. See Dr. Egle in *Historical Record*, vol. 2, p. 62.

*Daniel Sullivan.* His name not known elsewhere by the writer.

*William Jackson.* This was the Jackson who was so severely wounded when Armstrong on his second coming to Wyoming (Oct. 18, 1784) made the attack at Brockway's in Kingston and was defeated. Jackson was one of those who had escaped from Easton jail. It was on his bloody rifle that Capt. Franklin, after the retreat of Col. Armstrong's men, swore the famous oath, "That he would never lay down his arms until death should arrest his hand, or Patterson and Armstrong be expelled from Wyoming, and the people be restored to their right of possession, and a legal trial guaranteed to every citizen by the Constitution, by justice, and by law!" Was corporal in Franklin's militia, 1780, and sergeant previous to 1780. Was lieutenant 3d Co., 3d Regt., Pa. Militia, 1798.

*Richard Halstead.* Had been a soldier in Capt. Durkee's company and in Capt. Spalding's consolidated company to the end of the Revolutionary war.

*Edward Inman.* Of Hanover. Had belonged to Franklin's militia previous to 1782, was afterwards captain 8th Co. 3d Regt. Pa. militia, 1798.—See Dr. Egle in *His. Record.* A sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Thomas Heath.* This name not found elsewhere by the writer.

*Nathaniel Walker.* Was one of Franklin's militia previous to 1782—after the reorganization in (probably) 1780.

*Thomas Reed.* Had been one of Franklin's Militia, previous to 1782, after the reorganization in (probably) 1780.

*Walter Spencer.* Of Hanover, had been in the Wyoming battle 3d July, 1778, but had escaped the massacre. Was one of Frank-

lin's militia men after the reorganization in (probably) 1780.

*John Gore*, Of Kingston, had been one of Franklin's militia after the reorganization in (probably) 1780, was one of the men, (Capt. Jabez Fish was another) that came down from Fort Lillope on the Wilkes-Barre mountain in June 1784, with Patterson's flag of truce to negotiate, and was whipped by Patterson's order, with iron ramrods. A sketch of the family in Miner's Wyoming.

*Jonathan Burwell*. This name not found elsewhere by the writer.

*Prince Alden*, Of Newport, probably the grandson of Capt. Prince Alden, one of the 200 settlers, and who at this time would have been sixty-five or six years. Mason Fitch Alden was one of the three builders of the Nanticoke Iron Works about 1774-5, and in 1778 enlisted in Capt. Ransom's company in the revolutionary army, and continued with Spalding till the end of the war, 1782-3, and was afterwards 1st Major in 3d Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia, 1793. —See Dr. Egle in *Historical Record*, vol. 2, p. 62.

*Jeremiah White*. There were Whites here from the beginning. The writer knows nothing further of this one.

*Thomas Stoddard*, Of Kingston. Nothing of him known further to the writer.

*Elisha Harding*, Of Exeter. One of those 500 dispossessed, expelled and driven to the Delaware in May and returned, and came down from Fort Lillope into the Valley July 3, 1784. Had had six brothers (or men of the name of Harding) in Capt. Durkee's company in the revolutionary army, two of whom staid in till the end, 1783.

*Justus Gaylord*, Of Springfield, up the river, now in Bradford County. Himself and two brothers had belonged to Capt. Ransom's company in the Revolutionary army. Charles died in the army, Justus and Ambrose joined Capt. Spalding's company and staid in till the end of the war, 1783. They were probably sons of Joseph Gaylord, one of the first 200 settlers.

*John Platner* (or *John Palmer*). Name not known elsewhere by the writer.

*Abraham Nesbit*, Probably a son of James Nesbit, one of the first 200 settlers. Abraham Nesbit is one of those mentioned by Miner, who undertook to hold Plymouth garrison in 1781, and do some farming on the flats, but there were less than 200 acres farmed in the whole valley.

There are thirty on this list. One name, the first, Doctor Miner, was given me by Steuben Jenkins. He had been wounded at Locust Hill and was laid up in bed, and not taken to Easton.

Major Abbott (Mr. Jenkins says his name was *J. e.*) and Waterman Baldwin escaped

at Lerner's—near where the battle of Locust Hill was fought; and William Ross escaped at Heller's. *Miner's Wyoming*, This would leave twenty-six to be locked up in jail. After some weeks in jail, Edward Inman seized an opportunity to knock the jailer down and release all the prisoners. They scattered in all directions, but fourteen escaped and eleven were recaptured.

The list containing twenty-nine names is found in Henry's *History of the Lehigh Valley* in 1860. [Supposed to have been taken from the original jail records.]

They were made prisoners by Armstrong after they had laid down their arms according to terms agreed upon with Col. Armstrong, in violation of his pledged honor as a gentleman and a soldier, to secure peace in Wyoming. These particular men had driven back a detachment of soldiers in a skirmish at Locust Hill, that were being sent by the Pennsylvania Government to precede Col. Armstrong, and some of the soldiers had been killed in the fight, and Armstrong charged these men with murder. He sent them, ironed two and two and tied to a long rope, with a soldier on each side of every pair with orders to shoot any one that attempted to escape. Three of them, however, did escape, viz.: Major Abbott, Waterman Baldwin and William Ross. This was somewhere about the 8th or 10th of August, 1784. Mr. Henry says all the others but one broke jail on the 17th of September following, and escaped.

Christopher Huribut, whose brother John was among them, says in his journal: "About half of them escaped, the remainder were kept till October, when the Supreme Court was held at Easton; then the Grand Jury found no bill against them for murder, and they were discharged, after paying jail fees and other expenses to the amount of twenty-five dollars each. In the meantime those who had escaped, with a few others—about twenty—headed by John Franklin, had obtained arms, and kept together until the 18th of October, when a body of men came into the settlement and proceeded to make prisoners of such as they chose. They had taken seventeen and confined them in a corn house, which they kept well guarded, but they failed to take Franklin and his party, who continually gained in numbers until after the company returned home." (That is, the before mentioned body of Pennamites.) "After this the Yankees attacked the fort in the night, and killed two officers. Shortly after, the fort was evacuated, and all the Pennamites who had been fighting the Yankees were obliged to leave the settlement. When they got out into the country they made a loud outcry about the cruelty of the Yankees, and as to how they were plun-

dared of all they possessed; and by this means prevailed with a number of the inhabitants of Northumberland County to petition the Legislature in their behalf. The Legislature then appointed three of their number to go to Wyoming and endeavor to put a stop to further disorders. In the beginning of May, 1785, they came in, and after conferring with the Yankees returned."

What follows is the correspondence between the committee of the settlers and the committee sent by the Legislature referred to above, and copied at the time by Christopher Hurlbut in his diary, he being one of the committee of settlers. It has never heretofore been published. H. B. PLUMS.

This day, May 4, 1785, the committee arrived in this place. 5th wrote a billet to Coll. Butler to wait on them. 6th our committee met and wrote 8 o'clock that we would wait on them in one hour, at the house of Capt. Schota. Met at Capt. Schota and held a long conference. Agreed to act by writing for the future.

May 6th, 10 o'clock, received the following letter and queries. 1st, Is it the wish and determination of the people you represent called the Connecticut Claimants, to submit to and support the laws and constitution of this State. 2d, Will they support and countenance the civil officers in the legal administration of justice, and oppose all illegal and unconstitutional measures that may be taken by any person contrary thereto. 3d, As the Legislature have fully evinced their determination to protect the citizens in every part of the State in the full enjoyment of life, liberty and property, and as you are well acquainted with the measures that have been taken to punish those who in a lawless manner dispossessed a number of the settlers last May, we wish to be informed by what authority a number of people who were peaceable inhabitants, have during the course of the winter and spring, been dispossessed of their property and ordered to remove from this place, and whether the persons assuming and executing such authority are supported and countenanced by the people you represent.

Answer to question 1st:

"It is the wish and desire of us and the people whom we represent, to support the Constitutional laws and the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania, and has been ever since the Decree at Trenton.

In answer to your second question:

We assert and are able to maintain that there never has been any civil officers according to the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania elected in this settlement since the Decree of Trenton. Let us have constitutional civil officers, that is men elected by

us at an open and general election, warned according to the laws of this State; such civil officers we will support in the full and regular administration of justice with our lives and fortunes.

In compliance with your wish of information—by what authority a number of peaceable inhabitants have, during the course of the winter and spring, been dispossessed of their property and ordered to remove from this settlement—We answer in the categorical style, and affirm, that no peaceable inhabitants, as you call them, on this settlement have ever been ordered to remove off this settlement or dispossessed of their property in any respect whatever by us or those whom we represent, and we, the committee never countenanced the ordering of any peaceable inhabitant off their settlement or any of their property taken. Gentlemen, if you have had any complaints of such a nature as you represent in your billet, we would wish to know the complainants of such falsehoods, and that they should be brought before you and this committee if this falls under your cognizance.

Gentlemen, we would wish to ask the following questions, and desire your solution. Question. Whether those persons who came into this settlement under the patronage of Alexander Patterson a year ago last fall and took violent possession of lands and houses, and still retain the same, which were justly held by the Connecticut claimants and who were in the peaceable possession of those houses and lands; and whether those rioters if now in possession of those lands and houses, can according to the laws and constitution of this State, be called peaceable inhabitants? Question 2d. In what point of light do the Legislative body of this State view us? Gentlemen, we are, &c.

May ye 7th, received the following answers:

Wyoming, May 6th, 1785—Gentlemen: We have just received your answer to ours of this morning, and were pleased in reading the first paragraph wherein you consider an amicable compromise as near at hand. We assure you we shall esteem ourselves happy in accomplishing so important and salutary a measure. Your answer to our first query is somewhat satisfactory, but to the others not so. Your answer to the second is that there never has been any civil officers according to the constitution of the State of Pennsylvania elected in this settlement since the decree of Trenton. We are sorry to differ with you on this head, and, although we believe that many who were not freeholders did vote, yet we must contend that there were freeholders who did vote, and that the said election was in conformity to the constitution as appears by the proceedings of committee who were with you at

that time and reported to the assembly, who thereupon established the election by a law passed the 9th day of September 1788, in which the justices of the peace are particularly named. We therefore think you are bound as citizens of this State to support them in the due exercise of their authority until you can make it appear by a regular process before the proper tribunal, that their appointment is contrary to the constitution. A different conduct is certainly opposing the laws and constitution of this State. And we would further observe that if we are rightly informed many of the Connecticut claimants availed themselves of the authority of those justices, or some of them, in order to claim the repossession of their houses and lots agreeable to the law passed the 15th of September, 1784, entitled an act for the more speedy restoring the possession of certain messuages lands and tenements in Northumberland County of the persons who lately held the same, and were thankful for them to the part they acted therein. Your answer to our third query is also unsatisfactory. You assert that no peaceable inhabitant has been dispossessed of property or obliged to leave the settlement. In order to understand each other properly we wish to give you our idea of a peaceable inhabitant, viz., all those who held or were in possession of land or tenements on the 10th day of May, 1784, or the time you were violently dispossessed. Those people (whatever right they held under) were in the peaceable enjoyment of property, and, we contend, ought not to be despoiled and dispossessed but by a regular process at law. You gentlemen complained of the injuries you received by violence and illegal conduct, and will you the moment you are restored by the laws of the land countenance the same arbitrary and unconstitutional measures against another class of citizens, whom you deem intruders. This must be considered as an opposition to law and good government. We are possessed of a petition, signed by a number of respectable citizens, complaining in the most spirited manner of the arbitrary and cruel conduct of certain persons here in plundering and banishing the inhabitants, claiming under Pennsylvania, and this without any application to civil authority. We beg you seriously to consider where will this issue if persisted in.

Your letter concludes with asking us two questions. To the first we answer that however these people got possession of house or lands they ought not to be dispossessed of them but agreeable to law. Had the Connecticut claimant prosecuted them for taking violent possession, we doubt not the law would have determined the controversy in a proper manner. To the second we answer

that the legislative body look upon all persons residing within the chartered bounds of the State as citizens, those of whom are bound to yield obedience to the laws and who are entitled while so doing to the immunities and privileges granted them by the constitution. We have now, gentlemen, only to repeat our sincere wishes that you will each one join heart and hand to put a stop to further irregularities and disorders, and that you would give us proper assurances of your determination to support the laws and government of the State. This, in our opinion, is the only method left to restore peace and good order in this unhappy settlement, and we doubt not that upon your so doing you will not only experience immediate benefit yourselves, but afford real happiness to many who are now suffering under former oppressions. We pray God to direct you, and are with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

JOHN BAYARD,  
PERSISTEE FRAZER,  
GEORGE SMITH.

Upon which we sent the following billet:

WYOMING, May 7th, 1785.

Gentlemen, after the committee's best compliments to your Honors this morning—that you are in perfect health. Gentlemen, with submission we would desire of your Honors a copy of a petition you mentioned in your letter, and also a copy of the Act of Assembly establishing the election of magistrates at Wyoming, 1783, and also a copy of a letter from the governor of Connecticut to his Excellency the President of this State. We are gentlemen with suitable respect your most obedient humble servants.

Received the following May 7, 1785:

Gentlemen, we received your note, and agreeable to your request send you the sundry papers you mentioned, the Act of Assembly, the Governor of Connecticut's letter to His Excellency, the President of this State, and a copy of the petition from the inhabitants of Northampton,\* etc, signed by 45 persons. There were a large number of depositions laid before the House from the people who were driven off and plundered, but these we left behind, as they were bulky. We are gentlemen, etc.

Copy of a petition from divers inhabitants of Northampton County:

To the representatives, etc.—Your memorialists can't see without anxiety the present Anarchy prevailing in Wyoming as they become daily sufferers by it. The cruelties exercised by one styling himself Col. Johnson, leader of a banditti in Wyoming upon the loyal people of Pennsylvania, are of a

\*This means probably Northumberland County, as Wyoming and all the country to the north of it belonged at that time to Northumberland County.—H. B. P.



nature no longer to be suffered by a free and independent people, the cries of the helpless and naked families that are daily drove out of Wyoming by the above villains, destitute of every support for life, and with whom we are encumbered unless we suffer to perish by mere want, claims our commiseration and soon must claim our interposition if your honorable House doth not take proper measures to suppress the growing evil. We imagine it needless to state before your Honorable House the unwarrantable conduct of those rioters fully convinced that it has been already exposed, we shall confine ourselves in informing you that there is not a day going by that some Pennsylvania families are not entering our settlements, stripped and robbed of every property. Reason which induces us to take our humble recourse towards your Hon'ble Body, praying that you will take such proper and effectual measures as will restore civil government to that part of the State by smothering that fire of anarchy in its birth, and your humble petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Signed by 45 inhabitants.

Produced and read in the House March 4th, 1785.

May 9th received the following billet dated this day at Wyoming:

Gentlemen, we returned an answer to yours of May 8th on Saturday morning and are not a little disappointed to be yet without your reply, especially as we informed you of our wish to return as soon as possible. We expect to leave this place to-morrow and request you would by the bearer send us the letter from the Governor of Connecticut, and if you have anything further to communicate to us we shall be glad to receive it this evening. We are, etc.,

JOHN BAYARD.

To which we returned the following answer:

Gentlemen, we have just received your billet by your servant, in which you complain that you are disappointed that we have not sent you an answer to yours of the 6th of May, and desire one this evening. Gentlemen, we have been so incumbered with viewing the Constitution, Acts of Assembly, petitions, remonstrances, the governor's letter, etc., that they have taken up our time inseasonably, therefore the time has elapsed, but we shall send you an answer to your request this evening. Gentlemen, we are, etc.

The final answer of us, etc.

Wyoming, May 9th, 1785—Gentlemen: We received your answer to our letter bearing date the 6th of May, 1785, in which you say that our answer to your first query is somewhat satisfactory. We are sorry it was not entirely satisfactory to you when the answer was pointed, pertinent and conclu-

sive to your query in our judgement, and without any equivocation. Our answer to your second query you say is unsatisfactory to you because we assert that there never have been any civil officers according to the constitution of the State of Pennsylvania elected in th's settlement since the decree of Trenton. In this respect you say you must dissent from us, yet allow in your letter that there were many who were not freeholders voted at the said election, in which sentence you accede to our major proposition that there never were any civil officers according to the constitution elected in this settlement, because if there were many who were not freeholders voted at the said election we have reference to then there were many at that election who acted in open violation of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, and therefore made that election unconstitutional and consequently of no avail. You further proceed and say that this election was in conformity with the Constitution as appears by the report of the committee. Gentlemen, can a committee or any body of men make that right which is in its nature wrong. Secondly, You say the committee reported to the Assembly, who in consequence of that report passed a particular act to establish the said election, passed Sept. 9, 1783. If it were according to the laws and Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania what need was there for that honorable body to pass a particular Act to establish the said election. Gentlemen, notwithstanding you implicitly acknowledge the illegality of the election of those magistrates, yet say you think that we, as citizens of this State, are bound to support those magistrates. How can we bound as citizens to support unconstitutional measures? Gentlemen, we can't think that you would countenance such an idea that we, as citizens of this State, are or were bound to support unconstitutional magistrates, and consequently act in open violation of the constitution of this State. 3rdly, You observe that if you are rightly informed, many of the Connecticut claimants availed themselves of the authority of those magistrates, or some of them, in order to claim the repossession of their houses and lots, agreeable to the law passed Sept. 15, 1784. [This was an Act directing the restoration of the houses and lands and other property taken, to the returned inhabitants that had been expelled from the Valley in the preceding May—1784—and about which the whole country was now making very serious inquiries of the Pennsylvania legislators. H. B. F.]

In reply we say that we were laid under the necessity of so doing, because they were appointed by the authority of this State, and if we had not improved that opportunity we might have been kept out of our just

possessions another year. Therefore, there was no other alternative left us but either to do this or suffer greater evils and misfortunes. Therefore, it was not a voluntary but an involuntary act in us, that is it was not free from constraint. Therefore, when moral agency ceases all vice or virtue of consequence cease, and therefore that ought not to be brought against us. You gentlemen observe in the same paragraph that we were thankful to those magistrates for the part they acted therein. Answer, We are bound to be thankful to benefactors but we must first view those justices as benefactors before we can be thankful to them. We never did view them as benefactors, therefore no thankfulness is due from us to them in that respect. Gentlemen, you say our answer to your third query is also unsatisfactory because we assert that no peaceable inhabitants have been dispossessed of property or obliged to leave this settlement. Reply, We imagine that there is a great difference between peaceable inhabitants and rioters, who in a most riotous manner, by force of arms dispossessed the Connecticut claimants of their property, and the authorities of this State have dispossessed these rioters by a particular act for that purpose, and now these rioters say the Connecticut people have dispossessed and spoiled them of their property, which we deny in full. You further say that you are possessed of a petition signed by a number of respectable inhabitants complaining in the most spirited manner of the arbitrary and cruel conduct of certain persons here in plundering and banishing the inhabitants claiming under Pennsylvania, and this without any kind of application to civil authority. In reply we say and declare there have been a great number of inhabitants, or rather intruders, who pretended to claim under Pennsylvania title, and who, by force of arms in a most violent manner contrary to all law and constitution of all civilized christianized people, dispossessed the New England settlers, and took possession of their houses, land and property in a hostile manner, and that those settlers so forcibly dispossessed and plundered made repeated application to the legislative, executive, judicial and civil authorities of this State, praying for the restoration of their rights, properties and possessions agreeable to the law and constitution of this State, and that the Legislative Body on the 15th of September last, did resolve that those settlers so forcibly dispossessed should be reinstated, etc. And we further declare that we do not know of any such person in the settlement who pretended a claim under the Pennsylvania title who have had any possession except such as were obtained by force of arms; and we

would further say that we are informed by the best authority, and know it to be the truth, that a great number, if not all, of the persons who complain of being plundered and banished by the Connecticut settlers are those same persons who expelled us from our possessions, robbed us of our property, and then finding the law of this State relative to forcible entry and detainer was likely to operate against them, fled from the laws of their country, took off their own property, and a considerable part of ours. What part of our property they were obliged to leave behind them has since fallen into our hands, and yet those villains say we robbed and plundered them of their property, which allegations we challenge them to support. You further say in your letter that we complain of the injustice we have received by violence and illegal conduct, and then ask the question whether we will countenance the same against a class of citizens whom we represent as intruders. Answer. We the committee and the people we represent never have countenanced any such thing. Gentlemen you conclude your letter with a requisition that we would join heart and hand to put a stop to further irregularities and disorders, and that we would give you proper assurances of our determination to support the laws and government of the State. In answer to this requisition we have only to repeat our former answers to you on that head. Gentlemen, we assure you it is our determination to support the laws and constitution of this State. To conclude, we believe it the sincere wish of the State and of you gentlemen, to promote peace and harmony in this unhappy settlement, yet we can't but think it extraordinary that you should think it consistent with sound policy or the happiness of this settlement to continue those justices in office who were imposed on the people without their consent and in violation of the constitution and laws of ye State, and who are daily making inroads therein by violently taking possession of lands and property and detaining the same from the rightful owners in a sure violation of all laws, and consequently doing the greatest injustice to the widows, fatherless and distressed of whom David Meade is and was the first aggressor and distressor of the widows, fatherless and orphans, etc. Gentlemen we hope you will voluntarily give us our request, which is the constitution of the State of Pennsylvania, and thereby restore peace and tranquility to this unhappy settlement and joy and mirth to this State. We pray God to give you hearts susceptible of all the feelings of humanity, and in that line we will subscribe ourselves

your most obedient and most humble servants.

ZEBULON BUTLER,  
JOHN FRANKLIN,  
JOHN P. SHOTS,  
EBENEZER JOHNSON,  
JOHN JERKINS,  
CHRISTOPHER HURLBUT.

To the Honorable John Bayard, and other Committee of Assembly.

The farewell letter:

WYOMING, May 10, 1785. — Gentlemen, last evening we received yours of the 9th inst., in answer to ours of the 6th. We are sorry to inform you that it is entirely unsatisfactory to us, as we have in a plain and candid manner, not only in our letters, but in conversation informed you what we think the State requires of you as citizens, viz.: obedience to the laws and those who are appointed to execute them. We think it unnecessary to go into a particular answer to your last, and having to the best of our abilities discharged our duty to you and our country, we must now take our leave of you after thanking you for any personal civilities shown us, and earnestly exhorting you to a strict obedience to the authority and laws of the State which alone will prove your declarations sincere. A contrary conduct, be assured, gentlemen, will end in anarchy, confusion and distress. We shall advise those claiming under Pennsylvania to refrain from all illegal methods for obtaining satisfaction for injuries they complain of, and direct them to apply to the laws of their country for redress. We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

JOHN BAYARD,  
PERSIVRE FRAZER,  
GEORGE SMITH,

State of Pennsylvania in General Assembly. Friday, April 8, 1785, am.—The House resumes the consideration of the report of the committee on the petition of Divers inhabitants of Wyoming. Wherefore

Resolved, That the Hon. John Bayard, Esq., Persiver Frazer and George Smith, Esqs., be and they are hereby appointed a committee instructed to proceed to Wyoming as soon as may be and there make such inquiry as to them, or any two of them, shall appear necessary for the peace and good order of the people, and the regular administration of justice, and report thereon to this House in their next session, and that the said committee, before they proceed to Wyoming, confer with the Supreme Executive Council, and in the meantime as early as may be to report to Council the state of the inhabitants respecting the disputes and disorders existing there.

Extracts from the minutes—(Signed)  
SAMUEL BRYAN, Clerk.

WYOMING, May 12, 1785.—SIR: It is not without surprise that I heard of the imprudence of Esquire Meade in granting warrants yesterday, but it was more surprising to me to hear that you should (after we, the Committee, had made so public a promise to discountenance any break of law) so quick break that promise by burning any of the settlement, or threaten any person who offered no abuse to you. Perhaps I have been misinformed, if I have, I shall be glad, as I, on the one hand, would not relinquish any right or privilege that I was entitled to, so on the other hand I would be as far from countenancing any breach of public faith or good conduct. I am, etc.,

To Ebenezer Johnson.

From this letter it appears that Esquire Meade, (one of the Pennamite Justices,) as soon as the Legislative Committee left the valley—May 10th—issued a warrant, May 11th, against some of the Yankees, (supposed to be a warrant of dispossession,) regardless of the action of the Legislative Committee. This set the trouble brewing again, and within three months the Yankees expelled Meade, and he did not think it healthy to return again. The State rewarded him by giving him a large body of land in the western part of the State, and considerable cash; and Meadeville takes its name from him.

H. B. PLUMB.

One of Mr. Baker's Texts.

EDITOR RECORD: On the margin of the 10th verse of ninth chapter of Ecclesiastes, which was included in my bible lesson of Monday, April 2, 1886, I had written: "Text of Rev. Mr. Baker, the Revivalist, under whose preaching Mr. Maxwell, Judge Conyngham, and other prominent citizens of Wilkes-Barre were converted."

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave whither thou goest."

I had made a memorandum to inquire how long it has been since Mr. Baker's visit and of others who joined the various churches soon after, and was glad to see Mr. Snowden's reminiscence of the revival in the RECORD.

The sermon heard was impressed upon my memory by the fervor of the preacher in describing the feelings of a penitent when he became anxious about his sinful condition and his repetition. "What thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might," and peculiar emphasis on the word 'harrassed.' It was one of his later sermons, and not one which had first attracted members of the other congregations. W. P. M.

#### Chats With Early Residents.

Miss Elizabeth Dickson, lives at 93 South Washington Street, opposite the Sister's school, in a cosy little home which has belonged to the family for over fifty years. Miss Dickson's mind has not lost a particle of its clearness. She is blessed with an excellent memory and has a fund of entertaining reminiscences. She is a good conversationalist and quick at repartee—no one enjoys a good joke more than she. Just now she is partially disabled from the effects of a fall, but her friends hope to see her on the street soon again. The other day she called on friends who returned her to her home in a carriage and by somewhat of a round about way, so that she completely missed her bearings and was practically lost in the town where she was born. While Wilkes-Barre is a great deal larger she does not think the people any better or any happier than in the earlier days.

"Yes," she said, in reply to a question, "the Mr. Dickson who was beaten to death in 1814 by a United States officer was my uncle. I have often heard the story. My uncle was dragged from his sick bed and forced to join the soldiers. I don't remember the name of the officer. I have heard that he was convicted of murder but on a second trial was acquitted. My uncle was buried along the turnpike somewhere near Stoddartsville. The location of his grave is not known."

Apropos of this melancholy incident, John Hance, of this city, has in his possession a copy of the *Morristown (N. J.) Herald*, of Aug. 18, 1814. It was found among the effects of his father, the late James M. Hance, of Vienna, N. J. The paper fairly bristles with news as to the war with Great Britain, though there is a noticeable lack of telegraph facilities. The latest news is from New York, three days old; Boston, six days old; New London, eight days old. The New York dispatch recounts the attack of the British fleet on Stonington. There also appears a letter from Wilkes-Barre, under date of Aug. 5, showing that the warlike spirit was rife, but that not many persons wanted to go to war. Unfortunately the paper is torn at an interesting point in the letter. We reproduce it as far as possible.

"WILKES-BARRE, Aug. 5.—Monday last was a day of unusual excitement in our village. The United States troops enlisted in this vicinity, were under orders to march. The parting of friends, and the separation of husbands from wives, was in no little de-

gree affecting; and this painful feeling was in some cases heightened by the opinion, whether well or ill founded I pretend not to say, that some of the soldiers had not been very fairly attached to the service.

A sergeant by the name of Brack, conspicuous for his knowledge of discipline, and more so by his severity to the soldiers, in the course of Sunday broke his sword over the head of a Mr. Cook, a soldier, and severely wounded him in the arm. Brack was justly turned into the ranks—but the next morning restored to his shoulder knots, and marched off with the troops as sergeant.

During the forenoon, after the troops had marched, the whole town was.....The military was.....along as fast as possible.....ber of spirited citizens.....the cavalcade and stopped.....ficer presented his pistol to.....and threatened to blow them through. One of them seeing Judge Fell, called upon him to interfere, that the man might have a legal hearing. The judge in the name of the Commonwealth ordered them to stop. The habeas corpus was served. The question was tried before Judge Gibson, and Mr. Wiggin discharged. Thanks to the firmness, independence and intelligence of the civil authority, our citizens can not yet be dragged off against their will, and impressed into the army.

Whether legal associations of the people, to protect their rights, will not be indispensable to the public safety, is a question worthy of solemn consideration.

As Monday was a day of agitation and alarm—Tuesday was a day of fearful gloom and sorrow. A Mr. Dixon, a civil, inoffensive, but feeble man, who had enlisted and was marching out with the troops, was killed on the mountain by Sergeant Brack. Dixon, it is said, complained of fatigue, and lingered behind the rest. Brack sent for him and he did not come. Brack went back, cut himself a stock, and beat poor Dixon on the head, and kicked him in the sides, till, as he afterwards complained, his toes were sore. Dixon was put in a wagon and died very soon. The people went after him yesterday to bring him in, but he had become too putrid. He has left a wife and four children to mourn for him. An inquest was held on the body. Verdict, wilful murder. Brack is confined in jail."

The *Wilkes-Barre Advertiser* of Aug. 12, 1814, thus briefly disposes of the tragic incident:

"Died—At Bear Creek, Robert Dixon, a soldier in the service of the U. S., in consequence of wounds received from Sergeant Brack."

**Death of Hon H. C. Magee.**

Friday morning, April 27, 1888, occurred the death of H. C. Magee, at his home in Plymouth, from a bronchial difficulty. He was born in Carrol Township, Perry Co., Pa., Feb. 6, 1848, was educated in the common schools and the State Normal School. He taught school from 1870 to 1876, and was admitted to the Luzerne Co. bar Oct. 21, 1875.

Mr. Magee has always been a staunch Republican, and an active party worker. During 1885—6 he was a member of the legislature.

He was a good lawyer and a citizen of irreproachable standing in the community.

A largely attended meeting of the bar of Luzerne County was held at the Bar Office, Tuesday, May 1, 1888, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of taking appropriate action in regard to the death of Hon. H. C. Magee, late a member of the same.

Judge Stanley Woodward was called to preside and S. J. Strauss, Esq., was chosen secretary. After words of eulogy of Judge Woodward, H. B. Payne, J. A. Opp, and others, J. A. Opp, H. B. Payne, C. W. McAlarney, W. S. McLean and J. A. Garman were appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. The committee after consultation reported as follows:

H. C. Magee came to this county from the county of Perry in the year 1870. He was the principal of the public schools of Plymouth from the year 1871 to 1875, when he was admitted to the bar. In 1880 he was elected chief Burgess of Plymouth, and during the years 1885 and 1886 represented the Third Legislative District in the Legislature of Pennsylvania with marked ability. As a teacher he was honest and conscientious, loved and esteemed by his pupils; as a citizen he was a good man, honored by his neighbors with offices of trust and responsibility; as a member of the bar he was amiable, courteous in his intercourse with his brethren, and true to his clients, faithful to the courts, diligent and laborious in the preparation of his cases; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the bar of Luzerne County have learned with profound regret of the decease of Hon. H. C. Magee, one of its members.

Resolved, That in the decease of Mr. Magee the bar has lost an esteemed and exemplary member, who during his professional career discharged his duties with courtesy and fidelity.

Resolved, That the bar will ever cherish the memory of their departed brother and bear testimony to the many good qualities

of mind and heart of which he was possessed.

Resolved, That the court be requested to direct these resolutions to be spread upon the minutes and that a copy of the same be forwarded to his father and friends, and also given to the papers for publication.

**John Hughes Dead.**

Three months ago the Hughes brothers of Wilkes-Barre were called on to mourn the death of their mother in Carbondale. Now their father is dead at the age of 70. Of him the Carbondale *Leader* says:

John Hughes departed this life Saturday after an illness of three years, the result of two paralytic strokes. Mr. Hughes was in his 70th year. He came here in 1842 and had been a mine boss for the D. & H. C. Co. for over 30 years. During the year of his arrival here he joined Cambrian Lodge, I. O. of O. F., and at the time of his death was the oldest living member. He had been through all the "chairs." The deceased leaves nine children: Mrs. Warren Tappan, Mrs. Thos. Kirkbride, of Carbondale; F. G. Hughes, of Scranton; F. E. George, William, James and David, of Wilkes-Barre; and Edward C. Hughes, ex-mayor of Black Hawk, Col. The funeral takes place on Wednesday afternoon

The funeral of the late John Hughes took place April 18, and it was one of the largest attended in years. Rev. T. P. Morgan officiated, and was assisted by Rev. D. L. Davis. There were four lodges of Odd Fellows there. The mine superintendents were there in a body, and since the D. & H. C. Co. stopped their works at noon a very large delegation of employes attended. There were present forty-two children and grandchildren of the deceased, though this number did not include all of them. The six sons of Mr. Hughes, who acted as pall bearers at the burial of their mother three months ago, also acted in the same capacity yesterday. The seventh son, E. C. Hughes, of Black Hawk, Col., could not be here. The display of flowers, most of which came from Wilkes-Barre, was elaborate.

**Nearly a Century Old.**

Mrs. Ann O'Neill, mother of Owen O'Neill, of this city, died on April 26 at her daughter's residence in Ashley, aged 96 years. Her husband, Charles O'Neill, died some 18 years ago. She had been a resident of Ashley for many years. She leaves two sons and one daughter — Owen, of this city, Charles, of Ashley, and Mrs. Hopkins, who also resides at the latter place, and who cared for her aged mother until during the last illness.

**Death of C. B. Price.**

After an illness of nine months, the last five weeks of which confined him to his room, the death of Mr. C. B. Price took place, the result of apoplexy, at his home, 215 South Main Street, Friday, April 20, 1888. Mr. Price was born at Doylestown, August 1st, 1819, and was in his 69th year. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1841 and had resided here continuously since. He had learned the cabinet making trade, and with the intention of engaging in this and the undertaker's business, brought with him the first hearse that had been seen in Luzerne County up to that time. He gave more attention to general carpenter work, however, and had a shop on North Main Street in which he worked several years. One of his first jobs was a house for Adam Behee. He was connected with the late O. B. Hillard in the building of Hillard's mill, now known as the Lee mill, but sustained this connection only a year or so. He then in 1864 built a mill at the corner of Canal and Union Streets, which was burned in 1875, when he built the mill occupied by his business at present. Mr. Price was an upright and enterprising business man and earned and deserved the success that attended his efforts. In politics he was a Whig during the Whig times and a Republican since. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. His wife was Mary Ann Goncher, whom he married in Doylestown, and she survives him, as do also his daughter, Mrs. Norah Miller, of Midvale, N. J., and his son, C. B. Price.

The funeral of the late C. B. Price was largely attended from the residence on South Main Street Tuesday, April 24. The services were opened with the reading of Ecclesiastes XII, by Rev. Dr. Tuttle. Rev. A. Griffin offered prayer and Rev. W. W. Loomis delivered the funeral address. The floral offerings were most beautiful, including a pillow of various blossoms, with the word Father, placed at the head of the coffin; a design of calla lilies at the centre, and another pillow of roses with the word Grandpa, placed at the foot. The first was from the two children, and the last from the grandchildren. Besides these, there was a design of a large wheel in choicest flowers, and a broken column—the latter the gift of the employes at the mill.

A quartet sang Mr. Price's favorite hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," and the chant, "Thy Will Be Done."

Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. The pall bearers were: Col. S. B. Stardevant, Anning Dilley, Theodore F. Ryman, Conrad Lee, Wm. L. Stewart, Chas. Morgan, J. E. Patterson and Stephen Drum.

**Death of Mrs. Benscoter.**

Mrs. Clarinda Benscoter, wife of the late Warren Benscoter died at Fairview Farm, Union Township, her late home, Saturday, April 28, at 5:20 pm. Mrs. Benscoter was born in Lehman, February, 1821, and was 67 years old. At the age of seventeen she united with the M. E. Church and has ever lived a true and consistent Christian life. As a wife she was faithful; as a mother kind and devoted; and as a neighbor one whom all loved and esteemed. In all enterprises of a humane and benevolent character, in the community in which she lived, she gave a willing and a helping hand. For some time past the deceased suffered with a nervous affection, but nothing so helped to hasten her death as the sudden sad intelligence of the death of her youngest daughter, Mrs. Wm. W. White, of Brooklyn, whose demise the Record chronicled about a year ago. Mrs. Benscoter was in Detroit at the time visiting her son, Will, and her health would not permit her to be in attendance at Mrs. White's funeral. The following is a list of the children that mourn her death: Rev. Mrs. G. M. Larned, of White Haven; Rev. O. L. Benscoter, of the Central Pennsylvania Conference; W. I. Benscoter, of Detroit, Mich.; C. O. Benscoter, Esq., district attorney of Jefferson County; J. W. Benscoter, of Wilkes-Barre; C. A. Benscoter, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mrs. M. Masters and Hiram Benscoter, of the homestead. Funeral at the homestead Tuesday at 10:30 am. and interment at the family cemetery.

**Mr. S. A. Hubbard Dead.**

Samuel A. Hubbard died April 25, 1888. Mr. Hubbard came to the Wyoming Valley in 1868 as one of the civil engineers on the Lehigh Valley branch from Easton to Wilkes-Barre. At the completion of this road he was made chief clerk of the Wilkes-Barre Division by Supt. Robert Paoker. This position he held till his death, having served under Mr. Mitchell upwards of 17 years. Mr. Hubbard was 67 years of age, and was born in Worcester, Mass. He was finely educated, and spent some years of his early life in the South. He was married Feb. 20, 1878, to Miss Sarah H. Gardner, at Bridgeport, Conn. Other than his wife his nearest relative was his sister Mrs. Gregg, a brother Junius W. having been killed in Guananto, Mexico, a year and a half ago. Mr. Hubbard was a man of affable disposition, popular with all those with whom he came in contact socially or in business. His devotion to duty was absorbing, and he was a faithful official. Naught but good can be said of him.

The funeral occurred at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon from St. Stephen's, interment at Hollenback Cemetery.

**An Old Wilkes-Barrean Dead.**

Benjamin A. Bidlack, a native of Wilkes-Barre, died at Lebanon, Pa., March 18, 1893, and his remains have been temporarily deposited in the receiving vault at Port Jervis previous to interment at Milford at some future time. His father was Hon. Benjamin Alden Bidlack, who in 1833-4-5 was the publisher of the *Republican Farmer* in Wilkes-Barre. Previous to this date he had edited the *Northern Eagle* in Milford, the first copy of which was delivered to its subscribers by Wm. Broes, who in later years became a distinguished politician and journalist in the West. He is now the president of the Tribune Company, in Chicago, and one of the leaders in educational and philanthropic efforts in that great city. After removing to Luzerne County the elder Bidlack became a member of Congress. He was then appointed Minister to that part of South America, now known as the United States of Columbia, and died at Bogota, where a monument was erected to his memory by the American residents, which is still kept in repair by an appropriation.

Besides deceased, the elder Bidlack was the father of Dr. W. W. Bidlack, of Milford; Dr. F. B. W. Bidlack, now in Europe; Miss Blanche Bidlack, now with her mother in Boston, where another daughter resides, besides two other daughters in Philadelphia. The widow of the elder Mr. Bidlack (nee Wallace, of Milford,) who is also the widow of the late Dr. Thomas W. Miner, of Wilkes-Barre, is still living, and is now visiting her daughter in Boston. The son now practicing medicine in Milford, Dr. Wallace Bidlack, accompanied Samuel P. Collings (who succeeded the elder Bidlack as proprietor of the *Republican Farmer*) when Mr. Collings went to Tangiers, North Africa, as United States Consul.

**A Former Luzerne Man Dead.**

Reville Beach Stedman died on April 25 after a three weeks' illness of paralysis, on his farm near Barry, Ill. The deceased was born in Cortlandville, Cortland County, New York, Nov. 14, 1818, and resided there until grown to manhood, when he went to Towanda, Pa. In 1840 he removed to Wilkes-Barre, Pa. and Dec. 25, 1848, was married to Miss Morah B. Beisel, who was then in charge of a hotel as mistress for her brother William Beisel. He then moved to Berwick and then went to Drums, in Butler Valley, on a farm belonging to William Beisel. In April 1862 he removed to Barry, Ill., and in 1865 he moved on the farm where he lived the last twenty-three years of his life. He leaves a wife and two sons, two daughters, and four grandchildren to mourn his loss. Funeral services were held

on the 26th at the Baptist Church, of which he was a member, by Elder J. L. Bennett. Interment was at Barry, Ill.

**Clerk Robinson's Father Dead.**

Saturday, May 5, 1888, word was received by Mr. R. P. Robinson, Clerk of the County Commissioners, of the death of his father, W. P. Robinson, for many years a resident of Fairmount township. Deceased was 88 years old, and a native of Delaware, but came as a pioneer to Fairmount. He, in early life, learned the bookbinders trade, but was for a number of years a school teacher of Huntington Valley and vicinity. While yet a young man he married Sarah Rought, who died sixteen years ago. About that time he was rendered nearly helpless by paralysis, and never recovered. Eight of his sons and daughters are now living, namely: Captain John Robinson, of Fairmount; R. P. Robinson, of this city; Thomas Robinson, of Michigan; E. F. Robinson, of Forty Fort; Mrs. Rittenhouse and Mrs. Wiant, of Fairmount; Mrs. Koons, of Shickshinny; and Mrs. Pollock, of Olay Centre, Nebraska. Two sons were killed in the war. Another son and a daughter are also dead.

**Lived in Wilkes-Barre 70 Years.**

James Hoover, one of the oldest residents in this section, died Tuesday, April 24, at his home, 3 Grove Street. He had been ailing for three years past from droopy. Mr. Hoover was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1818, in a house which stood on the present site of the Hillard mill. He leaves eight children, seven of whom reside in Wilkes-Barre: Charles, Lodena, Harriet, William, Jennie, Mary and Edward, the remaining daughter Elizabeth, living in Ashley.

Mr. Harris' father and mother were born in Forty Fort. The father was with Commodore Perry on Lake Erie in the war of 1812, as a member of the Kingston Volunteers. He was killed in that campaign.

**"That Grasshopper War."**

EDITOR HISTORICAL RECORD: On page 51, 2d ed., of Pearce's *Annals of Luzerne County* he refers to the "Grasshopper War," and says as prefatory to his remarks on the subject: "Mr. Chapman and all other writers on Wyoming have given an account of what they call the 'Grasshopper War.'"

The writer finds in Sherman Day's *Historical Collections of Pennsylvania*, under the head of Juniata County, page 336, the following, speaking of the Tuscarora Valley:

"There was a most sanguinary battle on the river bank a little above Mr. Strause' between two tribes of Indians. It originated in a quarrel between the Indian children

about some grasshoppers, and was known as the "Grasshopper War."

The question is, were the tribes engaged in these wars, or the grasshoppers over which they fought, identical? Or is not the Grasshopper War a myth? C. F. H.

#### Dilton Yarrington's Reminiscences.

EDITOR RECORD: In your issue of April 18, I noticed a very interesting sketch of the history of the old church building that stood on the Public Square in Wilkes-Barre, written by C. E. Wright, Esq. It was correct as far as it went, but did not extend back as far as it might; and my knowledge of some of the preceding history of the old church has induced me to go back a few years further with its history, and give some of my early recollections of the venerable structure, and of those dear ones that attended as preachers and listeners at that early day in the old church.

When I was five or six years old I heard my grandtather and my father speak of the new church on the Public Square. I learned from them that it was built by subscription of members of all churches, and of no church, and that it was built for a free place of worship for all denominations, including the Universalists. I remember going into the building with my father in 1808 several times, and of seeing Joseph Hitchcock with his gang of hands at work there. My father said that Mr. Hitchcock was boss and was building the church on contract. My father was one of the subscribers, and he was called upon to put up a lightning rod on his subscription. He undertook the job and commenced the work immediately, and had finished it to within seven or eight feet of the ground; a shower came up, lightning struck the steeple, came down to the end of the rod, turned squarely into the building and onto the work bench making great havoc among Hitchcock's carpenter tools, then down through the floor into the ground, with but very little damage. This was in the summer of 1808 or 1809. The house was not finished till one or two years afterwards and was then occupied by Rev. Ard Hoyt, Rev. Wm. Woodbridge, Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, Presbyterians, and Rev. George Lane, Elisha Bibbins, and Marmaduke Pearce, Methodists, and Rev. Joel Rogers, Baptist, and one Universalist, whose name I have forgotten. Others preached there occasionally whose names I never heard. I think Mr. Gildersleeve preached there frequently about the time I left Wilkes-Barre, the first of March, 1825. I know but little of what occurred with regard to the old church after I left Wilkes-Barre, but if reports were true, there was a very unpleasant state of affairs for some years afterwards.

Carbondale, April 24, '88. D. YARRINGTON.

#### Some Recollections.

[Letter to the Editor.]

Among some old daguerreotypes taken by O. F. Cook before he went to the war, and given to a representative of the Record when he struck camp in the upper room of a building at Osterhout's corner, overlooking the Public Square, is one of a passenger canal boat on its way from Laning's foundry to the Susquehanna River, by temporary tramway. It was built in the abandoned foundry by and for Capt. B. F. Wells, who floated it down to the outlet lock at Nanticoke.

Some of the figures of the curious crowd drawn by this exhibition of early Wilkes-Barre enterprise are yet distinguishable and we can recognize the long cloak and high hat of Squire Gilbert Burrowes, and, I think, the partially shaded features of Dr. O. F. Ingham. At the door of the Anheiser building, next to the present Welles Building, is a figure very like Anning or Urbane Dilley, with his white apron on. The Bowman building, across the alley from Anheiser's, was standing, but a sign "New Clothing Store" indicated the beginning of a change.

That this should have all passed into oblivion shows the rapid transit of time.

About the Butler steam mill, I well remember the engine room in the basement, and a New Year's address written by Dr. T. W. Miner for one of the papers referring to the mill, in describing the growing industries of the borough:

"Where Colonel's pistons pour  
Into his pockets hopper's full of cash."

Col. John L. Butler ran the mill. Lord Butler lived in the frame house where the Record now runs its machinery, also by steam.

The mill of Ab'm Thomas stood on north bank of the canal between Franklin and River Streets, but like the block of Mr. Hillard on Main Street, was ruined by the State delay in completing the North Branch Canal, upon which their hopes of early profit were founded.

April 16, 1888.

W. F. M.

#### CORRECTIONS.

On page 82 of this number, under head of "Wyoming Soldiery in 1793" Dr. Egle is made in the 13th line to speak of the Provisional Army. Of course Provisional was the word intended to be employed.

Owing to a transposition of matter the obituary notices of Dr. Worden and Thomas Weir in this issue do not terminate properly. The matter on page 82 signed J. Y. W. belongs to the article on page 83, "In memory of Thomas Weir," while the matter on page 84 signed J. S. Clark is the conclusion of the death notice of Dr. Worden, page 81.



# The Historical Record

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## TOM QUICK, THE INDIAN KILLER.

An Outlaw who is Said to Have Revenged His Father's Death, Even in Times of Peace, Until He had Butchered 99 Redskins.

[E. M. Stocker in *Honesdale Independent*.]

Probably most of the readers of the *Independent* have heard more or less of Tom Quick, the Indian killer, but the sketch of his life which appeared a number of years ago is now a rare book and since his exploits have recently been dramatized by a Port Jervis lawyer and a new interest has been awakened in this celebrated character of pioneer days, a short sketch of his life as found in the traditions of the people and the work of Quinlan above referred to may be of interest.

About the year 1733, a Hollander, named Thomas Quick, came to the colony of New York, and not long afterwards located on the Delaware, on what afterwards became known as Upper Smithfield, near where Milford now stands. He appears to have been the pioneer settler on the Pennsylvania side, cleared land, erected a log cabin and barns, raised wheat and maize. In 1784 Thomas Quick, the Indian killer, was born.

He was the pet of the household and the Indians who roamed over that region then and frequently visited Quick's place, admired the stout, healthy lad, and often made him presents of plumes and feathers and other articles.

As the Indians were their neighbors he grew up among them and learned their language, and was taught by them how to hunt wild animals after the manner of the Indians. He thus grew to like the savage life of a hunter, trapper and fisherman, and could not be induced to follow regularly the occupations of civilization. He had two brothers and two sisters who attended a Dutch school which had been established in the neighborhood, but Thomas had become so much of an Indian in his habits that he gave but little attention to study and learned but little.

Thomas Quick, Sen., prospered in his undertaking and erected a grist and saw mill on a small stream entering the Delaware near Milford, probably the Vandemark.

While Tom's brothers were poring over the Dutch alphabet, he was shooting, trap-

ping, wrestling and jumping with the young Indian braves. He roamed with them over all the country in the vicinity of his father's cabin and became familiar with the beautiful Minisink Valley with its high abutment of cliffs on the Pennsylvania side and receding hills on New Jersey side as it extends from Port Jervis to the Water Gap. The romantic water falls and rocky glens all were known to him as hunting and fishing grounds. This knowledge afterwards served his purposes in waylaying and murdering Indians.

The Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians began to view with alarm the steady encroachments of the whites into their favorite hunting grounds, their ancient council seat on the Delaware. During the French and Indian war the Six Nations and other tribes had been induced by French emissaries, to take up arms against the English. The Quick family had been friendly with the Indians but they were the first to encroach upon them and the prospect of plundering an opulent man like Quick overcame any feelings of gratitude that might linger in the savage breast. When hostilities commenced, the Quicks became uneasy. Their alarm increased as the Indians grew less sociable, and finally withdrew from the Delaware River. Each party distrusted the other, and the Indians feeling they had been wronged, determined to drive the whites from their land. Quiet reigned until the Quicks became careless and one day as the father crossed the Delaware to grind a grist, accompanied by Tom and his brother-in-law, all unarmed, as they were rounding a point near the river they were fired upon by ambushed Indians. The old man fell mortally wounded. The young men who were unhurt endeavored to drag him after them across the river for it was frozen. As the savages approached the young men were constrained after much urging to abandon their father who exclaimed as he was dying, "Run for your lives!" The Indians fired on them as they fled taking the heel of young Tom's boot off which threw him upon the ice, and the Indians exultingly shouted, "There lies Tom Quick!" But he was soon up and out of danger. The Indians did not follow across the Delaware and Tom and his brother-in-law crept back near enough to hear the scalp whoop of the savages. Young

Tom was frantic with rage and grief and swore that he would never make peace with the Indians as long as one remained upon the banks of the Delaware. From this time forth the demon of unrelenting savage hatred entered Tom's heart and he became more like the savages he pursued than like a civilized man. He did not enter the army but took the Indians by stealth at all times whether in time of war or peace, and regarded neither age nor sex in his vindictive warfare. It does not appear that he signaled himself in any way during the French and Indian war; but after peace was declared and the hatchet buried he commenced ed operations. Such of the former inhabitants as were living returned to their homes on the Neversink and Delaware. The Indians also began to revisit their old haunts, supposing they would be well received, but the remembrance of the scalping knife and incendiary fires still rankled in the breasts of many of the old settlers, yet they were generally careful to avoid all cause of offense. Among the Indians who returned was a drunken vagabond named Muskwink or Modeline, who had assisted in murdering Tom's father. About two years after Tom met Muskwink at Decker's tavern on the Neversink. Muskwink had been drinking and became very bold and talkative, claiming Tom's acquaintance and desiring him to drink with him. Tom refused, bestowed a contemptuous epithet upon the Indian, which caused the snake-like eyes of the latter to glitter with rage. A conversation of an irritating character commenced, during which Muskwink gave a detailed account of the murder of Thomas Quick, Sen., asserting that he scalped him with his own hands, at the same time mimicking the grimaces of the dying man, and to corroborate his assertion, exhibited the sleeve buttons worn by his victim at the time. This brutal recital aroused the devil of hatred in Tom's heart. He seized a French musket that hung in the bar room and ascertaining that it was loaded, pointed the muzzle at Muskwink's breast and ordered him to leave the room. He arose slowly and sullenly and retreated into the street pursued by Tom until they arrived on the main road about one mile from Carpenter's Point, where Tom raised his musket and exclaimed, "Indian dog, you'll kill no more white men!" at the same time firing a load of musket shot into the Indian's back, between the shoulders. Muskwink jumped into the air and fell upon his face dead. Tom took the buttons which had been his father's from the Indian and drew his body behind the roots of an upturned tree. After this Tom returned to Decker's

tavern with the musket, drank a glass of rum and left the neighborhood. Several years afterwards Phillip Decker cleared the land and in plowing turned up the Indian's bones. A pair of bars in the fence at that place are still known as Modeline's bars. This transaction caused considerable excitement at the time, some holding that he should be arrested and punished and others defending his course. He was certainly laboring under great provocation and we can find greater excuse for this act than for many which followed.

His next exploit was the murdering of an Indian family, consisting of a man, his wife and three children who were in a canoe on the Delaware near Butler's Rift. The Indian seemed to be unarmed and not apprehensive of danger. They were on the side of the stream next to Tom and the children seemed to be very happy as they proceeded leisurely along. Quick concealed himself in the long reed grass which grew on the shore and as the Indian approached nearer he recognized him as one who had visited his father's house and who had committed several outrages on the frontier. When within a gunshot Tom rose up and in the Indian tongue ordered them ashore. The Indian turned pale but dared not disobey. Tom then inquired where they were going, to which the Indian made reply. He then told them that they had reached their journey's end. The Indian answered "that it was peace time, the hatchet was buried." But Tom replied that there could be no peace between the red skins and him. He then shot the man and tomshawked the squaw and children. Tom said the two eldest squawked like young crows. He had proceeded thus far without compunctions of conscience or feeling that he was committing a most horrible massacre. But as he raised the tomshawk to strike the youngest, the babe—for it was nothing more—looked up wonderingly into his face and smiled. The innocence and unconsciousness of danger beaming from its sunny, childish eyes caused him to relent. His arm fell powerless by his side. He could not strike. But suddenly the fact thrust itself upon him that the child would soon become a full grown Indian and without further reflection he dashed out its brains. He sank the bodies in the river and destroyed the canoe, and did not tell of this occurrence until years afterwards. When asked why he killed the children, he would reply "Nits make lice." There are many wonderful stories told of him, which have been preserved by tradition and which are firmly believed by the oldest members of the Quick family and other families who reside in the vicinity of his old home in

Westfall township, Pike county, near Roseown where he now lies buried. Among the improbable stories is one in which it is alleged that seven Indians caught him splitting rails and told him he must go-along with them. Tom just wanted them to assist him split open the log and they put their fingers in the crack to help pull it apart when Tom knocked out the wedge and as their fingers were all fast he proceeded to knock the Indians' brains out at leisure. The buck with seven skins is more like Tom. He hunted with an Indian in a most friendly manner, and divided with him at the end of the hunt, giving him the seven deer skins, while he kept the venison. The Indian threw the skins across his back. Tom fell behind and shot the Indian and took the skins as well as the meat, saying that he had shot a buck with seven skins. He was hunting with another Indian and pushed him off of the high rocks. Tradition says that on his death bed he claimed to have killed ninety-nine Indians and that he begged to have them bring an old Indian who lived near in order that he might kill him before he died, so as to make an even hundred. After participating in the murder of Canope at Handsome Eddy he had no more Indian adventures. His last adventure was with the panthers. He and his dogs killed two old and two young ones in one day. His headquarters in the summer were generally at the house of Showers near Mongaup Island or at a hut near Hagen's Pond, where he hunted and trapped. He never married and was outlawed by the government, it being an understood thing that no Indian who killed him would be held accountable by the whites.

In his old age he was regarded as a hero by the pioneer hunters and trappers. He died at James Rosencrantz's in 1796 or 1798 and was buried on his farm. During his last illness he never expressed regret that he had killed so many Indians, but was sorry that he had not killed more. He carried his favorite rifle until the stock where it rested on his shoulder was worn through so that the ramrod was visible at the place.

The time has long since passed when such a revengeful murderer can be exalted to the rank of a hero, yet the Indian slayer, weather-beaten, with worn-out accoutrements and toes in keeping presented a picturesque and Rip Van Winkle-like appearance that would have formed no bad subject for an artist's pencil. It would be difficult to find a parallel to the life of Tom Quirk, waging a relentless warfare against a savage foe, outlawed by his own government, still continuing to murder his victims, until his name became a terror to his foes, and at last dying

unrepentant and unsatisfied of revenge, his name being handed down to posterity by contemporary frontiersmen as that of a hero.

#### First Issue of the Herald.

Philip Myers, Esq., has shown the Record a copy of the initial number of the *New York Herald*, bearing date of May 3, 1835. It was found in the papers of his father, the late Thomas Myers, who died at Williamsport, Dec. 8. The paper was about one-fourth the size of the *DAILY RECORD* and sold for one cent. It had four columns of advertising which at the short rate of one day realized about \$20. The first page is devoted to an original story and a few literary and fashion notes. On page 2 is the prospectus and the news from Europe by yesterday's steamer, as also some matter of an editorial character. The publishers, James Gordon Bennett & Co., boldly hope to attain a circulation of 20 or 30 thousand a day, and it will be its policy "to care nothing for any election or any candidate, from President down to a constable." There are only two local items, one taken from the *Commercial Advertiser* about a steamboat explosion on the Hudson, the other a four line brevity about the races which began yesterday. The editor pays his compliments to his contemporaries by wondering what are the motives of Providence, "inscrutable to mortal kin, which dispose Him in His infinite wisdom, to drop down blockheads here and there to edit newspapers, like weeds in a garden, ere the rose has put forth its bud, or the hyacinth opened its blossom to the morning." It is also hinted that "ignorance, insipidity and insanity reign triumphant" in the *Sun* and other small New York papers.

#### A Native of Wilkes-Barre Dead.

Mrs. Mary Ann Horn died May 12 at Port Clinton, Schuylkill County, in the 76th year of her age.

Mary Ann Yarrington was born at Wilkes-Barre, in the year 1812. She came to Mauch Chunk when quite young, at which place she was married to Hugh S. Jackson, whose widow she became in 1834. On the 8th of November, 1835, she and her three children, Jane, Elizabeth and Abiel Hugh, were baptized at Mauch Chunk, by Rev. Mr. Rogers, being the first persons baptized in the parish of St. Mark's Church, and on the following day November 9th, 1835, was confirmed with several others, by the Rt. Rev. H. U. Ondarconk, assistant bishop of the diocese. In 1844 she was again married to John Horn, representative of Schuylkill County, in the State Legislature 1853 and 58, and lived at Mauch Chunk and vicinity a number of years, after which she removed to Port Clinton, where she lived until her death.—*Mauch Chunk Gazette*.

### MAKING LOCAL HISTORY.

Quarterly Meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society — Early Doctors, Jesse Fell's Discovery and the Old Academy.

At the quarterly meeting of the Historical Society May 11th., Sheldon Reynolds was chosen temporary chairman.

The accumulated correspondence was read and Henry Phillips Jr., was appointed to represent the society at the 800th anniversary of the University of Bologna.

Mr. Hollenback proposed the name of Albert Lewis for membership.

On motion of George B. Kulp, Hon. Caleb E. Wright was requested to prepare a paper on the Plymouth Academy.

It was ordered that the society co-operate with the American Philosophical Society in perfecting a language for learned and commercial purposes.

It was ordered that the society accept the invitation to co-operate with the New York Academy of Anthropology.

Tothill R. Hillard, Dr. L. H. Taylor and Hezekiah Parsons were elected to membership.

Rev. Mr. Hayden reported on the matter of increasing the list of life members and stated that out of 153 members the committee, consisting of Mr. Hayden and Sheldon Reynolds, had secured 32 life memberships, making the entire number 87.

Mr. Hayden said he had learned that it would be possible to obtain the Hollenback papers and account books for the society and upon motion it was ordered that request be made for them. They are of great value, as they go back to the early settlement of Wyoming Valley.

Contributors to the library—G. M. Reynolds, California Hist. Soc., New Haven Colony Soc., Amherst College, Hon. John Blair Linn, G. M. Lewis, C. J. Hoadley, R. G. Huling, Rhode Island Hist. Soc., Long Island Hist. Soc., Anthropological Soc. of Washington, Buffalo Hist. Soc., Col. C. Dorraner, E. M. Barton, Record Commissioners of Boston, J. A. Scranton, Minnesota Hist. Soc., C. W. Darling, Wm. O'Reilly, Dr. W. H. Egle, American Geographical Soc., Canadian Institute.

Contributors to the cabinet — Indian relics found on farm of Ross Sarver, in Fairmount Twp., and others presented by James Crockett, found on his farm in Ross Twp.; minerals from Colorado, presented by Maynard Bixby.

The secretary read an interesting letter on the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, sent by Samuel H. Lynch.

F. C. Johnson, of the Record, read a paper on the "Pioneer Physicians of Wyoming Valley." It was the paper—somewhat am-

plified—which he prepared in January of last year for the Luzerne County Medical Society. Much of the contained matter has never been published. The paper, if it could be called such, considering that it was only a presentation of extracts, began with a comparison of the territory of old Westmoreland, extending from Nescopeck to the New York line, and its limited number of physicians with the present day when in Luzerne County there is a physician for every 700 inhabitants, or one for each square mile of territory. Reference was made to what was undoubtedly the first visit of a doctor to Wyoming, when in 1765, Dr. Otto, of Bethlehem, was sent for to attend Christian Frederick Post, a Moravian missionary to the Indians who had been wounded. Reference was also made to such of the diseases of early times, chiefly fevers, as were noteworthy enough to find mention by the historians of Wyoming Valley.

Dr. Joseph Sprague was the first to practice medicine in what is now Wyoming Valley. He came from Connecticut in 1770 or 1771. He was driven out by the Pennamites in 1784 and died the same year in Connecticut. His widow, "Granny" Sprague subsequently became a famous midwife in Wyoming Valley.

Dr. William Hooker Smith, located in Wilkes-Barre as early as 1772. He accompanied the Sullivan Expedition in 1779 as surgeon. He held high rank as a physician and surgeon. He invested largely in lands and was one of the earliest to recognize the value of coal. He was the ancestor of Isaac S. Osterhout, founder of the Osterhout Free Library, and of Geo. R. Bedford, Esq.

Dr. Lemuel Gustin was associated with Dr. Wm. Hooker Smith and married the latter's daughter. He was born in Connecticut in 1749 and was in the Revolutionary Army. He and Dr. Smith were in the battle of Wyoming, and Dr. Gustin was one of the signers of the articles of capitulation. He and his infant daughter escaped down the river soon after the battle. He going to Carlisle where he became eminent and successful.

Dr. John Calkins, of New London, Conn., visited the valley in 1778 and inducements were offered him to locate here. Whether he did or not is uncertain. He did, however, locate at Oochecton on the Delaware. If he did not locate in Wyoming Valley, he certainly visited here frequently, though it may have been to look after his property. He was here as late as 1780.

Dr. Joseph Davis, born at New Haven, Conn., in 1782, moved into the Valley in 1778. He practiced in Wilkes-Barre till 1818 when he moved up to Spring Brook, where he died in 1830. His daughter mar-

ried Ebenezer Slocum, brother of the "Lost Sister."

Dr. Nathaniel Giddings, born in Norwich, Conn., in 1768, located in Wyoming Valley in 1789. He died in Pittston in 1851. The widow of Eleazer Blackman was his daughter. She died in 1886.

Davis Dimock, born in Connecticut in 1778, came with his father to Wilkes-Barre in 1790. While engaged in farming and distilling he became converted, and was ordained to the Baptist ministry. He combined preaching with doctoring and died at Montrose in 1858.

Dr. Mason Cray located in Wilkes-Barre in 1804. Born in Stonington, Conn., in 1778. Studied medicine in Albany. Married Desire Beach, daughter of Nathan Beach in 1809. In 1824 he sold his practice to Dr. Lathan Jones and removed to Columbia County, where he died in 1855.

Of the doctors who practiced before 1800, or at least whose names are mentioned in the books or records are these:

1777, Dr. Shadrack Darbee of Westmoreland.

1777, Dr. Samuel Cooke, Hanover.

1778, Dr. John McMillan, Exeter.

1784, Dr. John Minor, wounded at Locust Hill.

1785, Dr. Matthew Covell, Wilkes-Barre, father of Dr. Edward Covell.

1788, Dr. Oliver Bigalow, Kingston.

1789, Franklin Crissey, Hanover.

Among those practicing from 1800 to 1825 were:

1800, Dr. Samuel Jameson, Hanover, uncle of Stewart Pearce. Born 1777, died 1848.

1800, Dr. Charles E. Gaylord, father of James Henderson Gaylord, of Plymouth.

18—, Dr. Samuel Baldwin, Wilkes-Barre and Forty Fort.

1807, Dr. Ethel B. Bacon, Kingston.

1810, Dr. Geo. W. Trott, grandfather of Judge Stanley Woodward. Probably came about 1805. Died in 1815. His wife was Lydia Chapman, sister of Isaac A. Chapman, the historian.

1810, Dr. Eleazer Parker, Kingston.

1812, Dr. Montross.

1812, Dr. John Smith, Wyoming.

1818, Dr. Joseph Van Sick, a defaulting county treasurer.

1815, Dr. Moreland, Plymouth.

1815, Dr. Seth O. Whitney, Kingston, who married a daughter of Lieut. Col. Geo. Dorrance.

1816, Dr. Ebenezer Chamberlain, Plymouth.

1816, Dr. A. B. Wilson, father of Dr. Charles H. Wilson, late of Plymouth.

1817, Dr. Edward Covell, father of Miss Eliza Covell and grandfather of S.R. Catlin.

1820, Dr. Charles J. Christel, father of the late Mrs. A. O. Laning.

1820, Dr. Isaac Pickering, married Judge Jesse Fell's daughter Nancy. Died in Michigan.

1824, Dr. Lathan Jones, Wilkes-Barre father of the late James Jones, of the Wyoming Bank, and grandfather of Lathan W. Jones, late cashier of the same bank.

1825, Dr. Thomas W. Miner.

1825, Dr. Virgil Diboll, Wyoming.

1825, Dr. Atkins, Kingston.

A vote of thanks was passed and request made that the paper be extended so as to complete a century of medicine, and then presented to the Publication Committee.

Mr. Kulp took exceptions to a reference to Jesse Fell and his connection with the discovery of the availability of anthracite coal for domestic purposes. Mr. Kulp thought it too late a day to give Jesse Fell credit for this discovery as there was documentary evidence in the society's library that Fell had been anticipated several years. Mr. Kulp thought he probably got his idea of a grate from persons who had seen grates burning anthracite coal in Philadelphia.

Dr. Johnson replied that the fact of prior discovery was well known, but that it was Judge Fell's discovery which led to the general use of coal, rather than the previous discoveries.

Sheldon Reynolds said this was only partially true, as Mr. Cist, who was afterwards associated with Charles Miner, in pioneer coal mining, had been in correspondence with Oliver Evans, whose letter of 1803, describing a coal grate, was to Mr. Cist.

J. W. Hollenback said he had heard his grandfather tell of mining coal near Wilkes-Barre and shipping it in arks down the river to Carlisle, where it was used by the Government during the Revolutionary War.

Wesley Johnson stated that he remembered distinctly the spot where the coal was mined and it was just above Mill Creek where the L. V. R.R. makes its turn.

Mr. Hollenback said that was the place.

#### Accident to Mrs. Hartman.

News comes from Shickshinny of a serious accident to Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman, a well known lady, the oldest teacher in this county and a local historian of note. Mrs. Hartman was riding from her home to visit her daughter in Muhlenburg. When near Muhlenburg, her horse became unmanageable, and Mrs. Hartman was thrown out of the buggy. Her collar bone was broken and she was otherwise injured. She was taken to the home of her daughter, where she now lies, in a fair way to recovery.

## FOETY YEARS AGO.

**How Methodism stood in the Wyoming Valley at That Time—Dr. Pearne Preaches Again to His Former Charge After the Lapse of Nearly Half a Century.**

The pulpit of the Franklin Street M. E. Church was occupied Sunday, May 20, by Rev D. H. Pearne, D. D., pastor of Wesley Chapel, Cincinnati, and a delegate to the Methodist Episcopal General Conference.

His remarks received closest attention from an audience which completely filled the church. Dr. Pearne commenced his ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church as a circuit rider. This was forty years ago. His circuit then included Plymouth, Kingston, Hartsell Hollow (now Luzerne), Forty Fort, New Troy (Wyoming), and Exeter. During this time he boarded at the old Seminary boarding house and went to his various charges on horseback. Services were then held in the old academy, Plymouth; in Kingston there was a small chapel, plain—severely plain; church members met in the school house at Hartsell Hollow; the old Forty Fort church was then considered commodious and fine enough for all church purposes; in Wyoming the Methodists had obtained possession of a meeting house which had been commenced, but never finished, by the New Lights; at Exeter Mr. Pearne preached in a school house. It was during his ministry that the wonderful revival of religion occurred at New Troy, now known as Wyoming. The converts included Payne Fettebone, William Sweetland, Isaac Shoemaker, Henry Durland, Peter Poland, York Smith, Daniel Jones, Ranford Goodwin, and one hundred and fifty others.

The following year Mr. Pearne came to Wilkes-Barre as pastor of the First M. E. Church. The house of worship was then on Public Square. A year only of service had elapsed when the church on Franklin Street was completed and Mr. Pearne preached there a year. This old church was demolished but recently under the pastorate of Rev. J. O. Woodruff. In the hope of benefit from change of climate, Mr. Pearne and his wife, having been ill of typhoid fever, removed from Wilkes-Barre to Owego, N. Y., and thence very shortly to Oregon. He was the first presiding elder in the Oregon district after the conference was organized there, and his territory included Oregon, and Washington and Idaho Territories. He traveled, mostly on horseback, about 2,000 miles each quarter. He established the first Methodist paper in Oregon and was its editor for nine years—the *Pacific Christian Advocate*—which is now the most important Methodist

paper in that territory. Dr. Pearne is now pastor of Wesley Chapel in Cincinnati, and is one of the editors of the *New York Daily Christian Advocate*, now being published by the M. E. General Conference.

## The Cost of Coal.

[Letter to the Editor.]

The following contracts, copied from the original, may interest some of the gentlemen publishing daily newspapers in our neighboring cities of Philadelphia and New York who delight in abusing the "coal barons" as extortioners and knaves. It is not many years since every journal in New York denounced the coal trade for charging more for coal than the cost of mining and transportation. The wise editors said that the purchase of coal lands to secure tonnage was an abuse, and there was no justice in adding interest on such investments to the price of coal.

Between the profound wisdom of city papers and officials of the Knights of Labor, coal producers have a weedy row to hoe, and an opportunity to compare the cost of starting coal to market seventy-four years ago and the present cost of it in New York may be useful in correcting many errors.

NO. 1.

"This memorandum witnesseth that I have agreed to get out the timber, including stern posts, corner posts, car shanks, and all the timber that is usually hewed, for ten arks, sixty-five feet long and sixteen feet wide, and to build them in a workman-like manner, finished completely ready to run by the first spring freshet. The arks to be built at Lehigh landing for Charles Miner; the consideration money to be four hundred dollars. The said Charles is to find all the materials on the spot, haul the timber, to board the hands and to furnish them a reasonable quantity of whisky.

PHILIP HERRMANS.

Wilkes-Barre, Nov. 23, 1814.

NO. 2.

"This contract made the 27th day of January, 1815, between Charles Miner, of the one part, and Benjamin Smith and James Mears, on the other part, witnesseth

That the said Smith and Mears have agreed to haul from the Great Coal Bed near the Lehigh, commonly called the Weiss bed, to the landing near the Lints place, sixty Tons of Stone Coal by the first day of April, 1815; for which the said Miner is to pay them four dollars and fifty cents per ton, provided they haul out by the said time the said sixty tons, otherwise they are to receive only at the rate four four dollars per ton for such quantity as they may actually haul to the river.

And the said Miner agrees to pay the said Smith and Mears the price agreed upon

above, but not to pay more than half the amount which may at any time be hauled out until the whole contract is fulfilled and the coal weighed to the satisfaction of both parties.

Witness our hands and seals the day and year above written.

JAS. MEARS [Seal].  
 BENJ. SMITH [Seal].  
 CHARLES MINER [Seal].

Witness, JOSEPH WRIGHT."

Our late venerable friend, James A. Gordon, Esq., wrote the RECORD February, 1874, of this early venture on the Lehigh, of which he was witness. He estimated the cost of an ark at \$125, of which he had helped to build four. Each had fifty tons of coal. Cost of mining \$50. Hauling from Summit \$4.50 per ton, loading \$15. "Lehigh pilots were on board. The fleet moved off with the rapid current, and in fifteen minutes brought up on a reef called Red Rocks, half a mile below. One ark got through. In the ensuing December peace was declared, and coal went down to six dollars (\$6). The enterprise was a financial failure."

Mr. Gordon was one of the boys who took off nearly all their clothes and jumped in the stream to stop the rush of water in the arks with them.

Thousands of such mishaps and losses have paved the way for cheap coal in the cities. Yet some people are not satisfied.

W. F. M.

#### History of the Presbyterian Church.

This being the centennial year of Presbyterianism every Presbytery has been called upon to prepare a history of itself. The Presbytery of Lackawanna, of which Wilkes-Barre is an integral part, has attended to its duty and a very creditable volume is the result. The sketch of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre covers nearly eight pages and was prepared by Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. This has been printed separately and a copy has been received at the RECORD office.

Mr. Reynolds says that the first pastor of the church—it was Congregational at that time and until 1833—was Rev. Geo. Beckwith, Jr., who was sent in 1770 by the Suezehanna Company, of Connecticut. He was a graduate of Yale College. He stayed a couple of years and was followed in 1778 by Rev. Jacob Johnson, graduate of Yale, 1740, he continuing in the pastoral relation until his death in 1797.

A house of worship had been built soon after the settlement of the village but was

swept away in the general destruction in July, 1778. Schoolhouses were subsequently employed until 1791, when meetings were held in the log court house situated in the public square. In 1808 the new building, known as Ship Zion, also in the square, was completed. It had been commenced in 1791. It was a frame building and was occupied for 30 years.

After the death of Mr. Johnson in 1797 there was no regular minister until 1806, when Rev. Ard Hoyt, of Danbury, Conn., was installed as pastor. He served for 11 years and then went as a missionary to the Cherokee Indians in Tennessee, his death occurring in that State in 1828.

No records of the church earlier than 1808 are preserved. In that year Wilkes-Barre and Kingston formed a united church, this joint relation existing until 1819, when a separation took place.

In the spring of 1818 the first Sunday school was established by this church. Other schools followed during the same year. Hon. Oristus Collins was its superintendent.

From the time Mr. Hoyt left in 1817 until 1821 there was no settled pastor. Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve was pastor from 1821 to 1829, serving Kingston also during part of this time.

In 1829 Rev. Nicholas Murray was called to the pastorate and remained until 1838. During his pastorate the form of church government was changed from Congregational to Presbyterian, and the interest in "Ship Zion" was sold to the Methodists. A new church was then built on Franklin Street which, 16 years later, gave way to the edifice lately vacated by the congregation.

The church was dedicated in 1838, with Rev. John Dorrance as pastor, he remaining until his death in 1861. His successors were Rev. Dr. A. A. Hodge, Rev. S. B. Dodd and Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, the present pastor.

During the latter's pastorate of 19 years the church has distributed for various purposes the sum of \$418,000.

The new church now in process of erection will cost, lot included, about \$170,000.

THE New York Tribune says that the Russo-Greek churches, which are soon to be built in Chicago and San Francisco, will not be the pioneer churches of that faith in this country, as has been stated. Years ago Father Bjeiring, now a Presbyterian minister, had a regularly organized Russo-Greek congregation in New York City, and at the present time there is a Russo-Greek church in Kingston, Pa. There is also said to be one in Shenandoah, Pa.

## REUNION OF VETERANS.

The Boys of the Old 52d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Meet for the First Time Since the Close of the War.

The survivors of the 52d Reg., P. V., held a reunion in Wilkes-Barre May 16, the first since they separated at the close of the war. Nearly two hundred of the "boys" were present, including their gallant colonel, ex-Gov. Henry M. Hoyt. Though 28 years have passed away since 1865, not all the veterans are gray. On the contrary, some are as young as 40, and the oldest on the register is only 68. The regiment produced not only a Governor but the present Mayors of the two sister cities—Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. Col. Ezra H. Ripple, mayor of Scranton, was a bugler and is 46, Charles B. Sutton, mayor of Wilkes-Barre, was also a musician and he is 56.

Most of the day was devoted to a registration of the arrivals, of whom there were 165. The register will be kept for future reunions. In the afternoon the formal exercises were opened by prayer by Rev. M. D. Fuller, and Mayor Lennard was chosen chairman. Letters of regret were read from Gen. W. H. Davis, Philadelphia; and Capt. Joseph Chamberlain, of Tennessee. Major Lennard was elected permanent president, Col. E. H. Ripple vice president, and H. O. Miller of Kingston, secretary.

Then came speeches. Ex-Governor Hoyt was at his best, and many of the veterans were moved to tears under his eloquent and sympathetic words. Remarks of reminiscent character, followed by Capt. W. S. Chatman, Lock Haven; Capt. J. W. Gilchrist, Wilkes-Barre; Mayor Ripple, Scranton; Mayor Sutton, Private Kennard, Capt. J. B. Fisk, Providence; Capt. Ed. Peckins, Plymouth; Capt. B. Henberg, Archaibald; Quarter Master Charles Ross, Newark, N. J.; Commissary Sergeant, Houtz, of Harrisburg and others. Lieut. Smith, of Pittston, gave a character song. A very delightful afternoon was spent, and after voting to meet in Scranton, in September, 1889, the entire assemblage marched to the Memorial Fair at the armory, and partook of a bounteous supper.

The registry:

Staff—Henry M. Hoyt, Philadelphia; G. R. Lennard, Wilkes-Barre; Dr. J. B. Crawford, Wilkes-Barre; S. T. Roberts, Tunkhannock; S. B. Mott, Scranton.

Musicians—G. G. Parker, Wilkes-Barre; Samuel Roberts, Columbia Co., O. T. Barnes, Wilkes-Barre; O. B. Sutton, Wilkes-Barre; J. W. Maroy, Kingston; Ed. Howell, Scranton; Jos. Bristy, Scranton; Anthony Bauer, Wilkes-Barre; Silas Leach,

Scranton; Stewart L. Barnes, Wilkes-Barre.

Company A—J. W. Gilchrist, Wilkes-Barre; P. G. Killieon, Pittston; J. M. Taylor, Waller, Pa.; Fred Sunbud, Fairmount Springs; S. W. Taylor, Carnyville; D. W. Holly, Berwick; I. E. Finch, Wilkes-Barre; John Huntsman, Scranton; Wm. Ward, Yoetville; W. L. Millham, Wilkes-Barre; G. W. Hirner, Sweet Valley; B. P. Smith, Fairmount Springs; F. E. Oarmon, Wilkes-Barre; John Scott, Wilkes-Barre; Ben Kroth, Plymouth; Wm. Mott, Wilkes-Barre; Freeman Mott, Plains; Thos. Aregood, Luzerne Borough; Jas. B. Russel, Sunbury; Chas. Rainow, Wilkes-Barre; A. J. Meeker, Mountain Top.

Company B.—R. W. Bannatyne, Tunkhannock; Jonathan Jones, Tunkhannock; A. L. Tiffany, Eaton; A. H. Frear, Lake Winola; Charles Russell, Russell Hill; B. G. Wakefield, Honey Creek, Ill.; A. Rinker, Wyoming; E. A. De Wolf, Wyoming; C. L. Cool, Pittston; J. H. Bird, Meshoppen; A. Fassett, Mehoopany; G. D. Wright, Laceyville; W. H. Pneuman, Meshoppen; G. L. Kennard, Meshoppen; A. A. Carter, Morrison, Ill.; M. H. Conger, Vosburg; T. F. Bullard, Meshoppen; H. E. Brown, Meshoppen; C. L. Low, Auburn Centre; J. B. Maxwell, Meshoppen.

Company C.—N. S. Chatham, Lock Haven; Torrence McCloskey, Hazleton; H. O. Livingston, South Williamsport; Robert Jones, Williamsport; J. H. Corwin, Montrose; Patrick Gallagher, Wilkes-Barre.

Company D—Joseph McCracken, Pittston; Thomas Mackey, Williamsport; A. S. Houtz, Harrisburg; H. O. Post, Lewisburg.

Company E—J. L. White, Avoca; W. C. May, Towanda.

Company F—B. K. Luther, Luther's Mills; E. W. Barney, Montrose; O. Watrous, Montrose; J. K. Linger, Sweet Valley; Andrew Singer, Clark's Summit; A. J. Meeker, Mountain Top; Alexander Neely, Waymart; G. K. Knight, Parsons; O. S. Griffin, Scranton; B. K. Gustin, Burlington; Andrew Melville, Luther's Mills; Leander Overpick, Herrickville; N. A. Fuller, Camptown; Benj. Welter, Avoca; S. M. Sorber, Mill Creek; Fred. Burgess, Pittston.

Company G.—J. S. Maroy, Duryea; A. H. Rush, Wilkes-Barre; J. W. Evans, Berwick; R. Shepherd, Wanamie; O. E. Bahl, Nescopeck; W. W. Snyder, Hazleton; J. F. Mendz, Wilkes-Barre; Noah Adams, Pittston; H. Rimmersfeld, Avoca; John Bointon, Pittston; Jos. Shiner, Wilkes-Barre; John Swartz, Scranton; H. N. King, Outlet, W. S. Stark, Plains, Henry Rush, Wilkes-Barre; W. C. King, Outlet; And. Bumbaugh, Wilkes-Barre; Theo. Halstead, Lackawanna.

Company H.—E. R. Peckens, Plymouth; J. B. Fish, Scranton, O. O. Dattenberg, Archaibald; J. G. Bell, Peckville; H. O. Miller, Kingston; Rees Williams, Archaibald;



George W. Wilder, Scranton; P. B. Walter, Factoryville; F. Pickering, Peckville; Joseph Nash, Scranton; P. McAfee, Shickshinny; H. M. Bunting, Farno; Redmond Line, Mountain Top; Philetus Snedman, Peckville; Nelson Larose, Providence; J. G. La France, Ithaca, N. Y.; Henry Greener, Prompton; J. B. Roberts, Falls; T. M. Keeney, Shelby, Iowa; A. S. Oollum, Factoryville; W. W. Archer, Pittston; Z. P. Travies, Peckville; Charles P. Ross, Newark, N. J.; S. B. Hull, Scranton; O. F. Brown, Dunmore; W. M. Evans, Tunkhannock.

Company I—Edward Smith, Scranton; J. E. A. Sowers, Shamokin; Thos. A. Edwards, Edwardsdale; William Hadley, Hyde Park; William Harris, Wilkes-Barre; Samuel Williams, Hazleton; W. D. Jones, Carbondale; James Jeremiah, Hyde Park; William J. Jones, Hyde Park; Jonathan Davis, Wilkes-Barre; Patrick Harrigan, Wilkes-Barre; S. Williams, Pittston.

Company K—Thomas Jordan, Green Island, N. Y.; David Moses, Green Island; J. T. Roberts, Carbondale; Alva Dolph, Carbondale; William McClare, Scranton; S. B. Mott, Scranton; Samuel Sears, Carbondale, Edmund Jones, Carbondale; Reuben Sears, Carbondale; William Scott, Binghamton, N. Y.; S. Millard, Avoca; John J. Morrison, Edwardsdale; John Brennan, Forty Fort; George Neimer, Almiria; A. B. Evans, Hyde Park; Edward Ryan, Mountain Top; Nathan Lanning, Shickshinny; T. G. Smith, Scranton; E. H. Ripple, Scranton; Levi S. Hockett, Scranton; H. P. Forsman, Elmira; A. J. Scott, Plains.

#### Early Churches in Wyoming Valley.

[Dr. Underwood in Pittston Gazette.]

Within a short time I have noticed two historical errors in your columns which with your permission I wish to correct. The first came from J. G. Fell, Esq., in writing up some of the early history of Pittston, seventy years ago. In connection with this, he stated that, at that time, there was only one church in Luzerne County, viz., the old church on the Public Square at Wilkes-Barre. In my boyhood days I learned from my father something of the history of this church as well as the old church at Forty Fort. I have taken the pains to look up the history of these old residences, and find that the church on the Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, was commenced or subscription started therefor, under the pastorate of the Rev. Jacob Johnson, a popular minister of the Presbyterian Church, in 1791. It was not enclosed until 1801, and was finished in 1812. The bell that was hung in the tall spire, at the time it

was finished, tolled out its chimes so distinctly as to be heard over nearly the whole Valley. The hour of nine o'clock, morning and evening, was sounded through the week, and on the Sabbath it called together "the humble worshiper to hold communion with his Maker;" and when it ceased it seemed almost as if time had come to an end. The old bell still sounds out its curfew in the Broad Street Presbyterian Church in Pittston. The church was purchased from the Presbyterians, by the Methodists in 1831, and remained in their possession until 1849, when it was sold to the borough authorities of Wilkes-Barre, and was torn down for a location for public buildings, the Methodists having built a new church on Franklin Street.

The old church on the Square at Wilkes-Barre, according to Mr. Fell, was the only church in Luzerne County seventy years ago. If history is correct, the old church at Forty Fort was built in 1806, under the control of the Presbyterians and Methodists, and is still under their control, so far as I know. The church is now the oldest house of worship in Luzerne County being 82 years old.

The second error is made in the obituary of Elisha Harris. It is there stated that he was converted under the preaching of Lorenzo Dow. This was not the case. It was under the preaching of Henry F. Row, a Methodist minister, while holding protracted meeting in the old Forty Fort church, I think in 1833, fifty-five years ago. Another incident I might mention here. Mr. Harris claims to have been converted at the house of Platt Hitchcock, a prominent member of the church, who lived a short distance from the church. Mr. Platt Hitchcock was a son of Joseph Hitchcock, who superintended both the Wilkes-Barre and the Forty Fort churches.

G. UNDERWOOD.

#### Municipal Expenditures for a Year.

City Auditors Johnson, Becker and Mooney, in the course of their work find that during the fiscal year ending April, 1888, the city expenditures reached the sum of \$215,885 41, distributed as follows:

April, 1887.....	\$ 4,879 55
May.....	9,994 84
June.....	6,815 28
July.....	8,899 65
August.....	28,805 08
September.....	40,157 41
October.....	11,387 28
November.....	19,669 60
December.....	31,809 92
January, 1888.....	16,285 89
February.....	6,841 77
March.....	31,389 16

## STUDYING GEOLOGY.

**A Party of Chautauquans Visit the Terminal Moraine at Berwick—An Interesting Description.**

Brief mention has already been made in the RECORD of an expedition on Saturday, May 5, made by a number of gentlemen connected with Chautauquan circles hereabouts. The party comprised Dr. Corss, Supt. Coughlin, Artist Sam Smith, Prof. Putnam, W. A. Moyer, Hon. C. D. Foster, Supt. Monroe, Rev. F. von Krug, Rev. G. H. Ingram and W. Geo. Powell. The latter has kindly furnished the RECORD the following interesting narrative:

Departure was taken by the first morning train from Kingston, and by half-past eight o'clock the party were in two carriages bowling out from Berwick toward Foundryville and the moraine. This they crossed on the county line, after which a course was held almost directly north, and just back of the edge of the moraine, over Lee's mountain into the extreme end of Shickshinny Valley. The return to Berwick, after a round of about twenty miles, led in a line parallel and in front of the moraine. The clear state of the atmosphere, and the splendid condition of the roads combined to promote great social joviality in the party, and many amusing incidents and personal anecdotes might be detailed.

What dwellers in Wyoming Valley, who have observed her beauty and are proud of it, have not let their curiosity marvel, at times, upon what might be the stony matrix of their gem? Here, at Wilkes-Barre, we are near the center of a circuit of landscape far-famed for its magnificence, and of a zone of mineral wealth of paramount importance to industry. The great coal canoe, we all know, extends from above Carbondale to below Shickshinny. Around this, and rising into Wilkes-Barre and Kingston mountains, is the great pebble-covering called the Pottsville Conglomerate. Then comes a band of Manch Chunk Red Shale, in most places eroded into a narrow valley, and then the hard sandstones and conglomerates of the Pocono, the mountain-maker.

Who, of the many who look daily towards the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston Mountains, here six miles apart, ever think, as they look, that inevitably these ridges must in the distance become one?

One of the purposes of Saturday's observation was to get into the very stem of the Wyoming Valley canoe. West of Shickshinny, Wilkes-Barre Mountain changes its name to Lee's, and Kingston Mountain to Huntington. Converging with a little

spoon-shaped valley of Manch Chunk red shale between them, and in its lap resting the precious burden of Wyoming, these two ridges come together in a prominent crest called Knob Mountain, overlooking the little hamlet of Orangeville far away in Columbia County, about ten miles northwest of Berwick. This point, then, in geological fancy, may be looked upon as the extreme limit of Wyoming Valley. Enclosing the Pocono in Lee's Mountain, the Knob, and Huntington, is a great band of Oatakill rocks, mostly red shales; then a band of Chemung sandstones and vari-colored shales; and then the Hamilton formations, extending about a mile on each side of the river. The line of greatest depth along the concave wave of strata containing our coal wealth is called the Lackawanna Synclinal. This line passes through the center of the valley into Knob Mountain. The corresponding convex turning on the south is called the Berwick Anticlinal, because the line marking the highest part of the wave passes under Berwick. If the Pocono of Lee's Mountain be supposed to have once extended over the intervening country to its appearance again in Nescopeck Mountain, there would be a ridge over Berwick elevating that borough 7,000 feet above its present position.

At the meeting of the great Arctic glacier which covered Wyoming Valley in the Quaternary period to a depth of between two and three thousand feet, the debris of rock and dirt lining its precipitous southern edge, technically known as the "terminal moraine," was left in an irregular, straggling line, stretching east and west across the country. By tracing up this ridge of deposited material, with all its phenomena of transferred boulders, kames, tills and glacial scratches, the southern limit of the ice sheet can with tolerable accuracy be determined. It enters Luzerne County at Sandy Run, near White Haven, and leaves it in Salem Township, north of Beach Haven. The explorers of Saturday, speaking of the moraine as it appears in Salem Township, and in Briar Creek Township, across the line in Columbia County, say they did little more than to verify the report of the eminent geologist, Prof. H. Carville Lewis, who visited the ground several years ago. Beach Haven and Berwick are both built on terraces of stratified drift, lining the river, and overlying the Hamilton formation of olive and brown shales, impure limestones, and bluish slates. At the old mill, a short distance east of Foundryville, a fine, though solitary exposure of Genesee slate was passed.

Little attention, however, was paid at this part of the ride to the underlying rocks. The surface of the earth was so bestrewn with drift that it was only by sharp surmises that the formations passed over were

named. That broken and indistinct line of low hills, running parallel to Lee's Mountain was recognized as being necessarily of Chemung rocks, and the shallow depression beyond of the softer Catskill strata.

At no place was the margin of the moraine exceedingly well defined. The agency of floods seems to have spread the moraine abroad, or it may be supposed that the glacier advanced and receded several times within a limited area, until the exact portion of its front became obscured. Although hundreds of bowlders and pebbles were examined, but one interesting and notable stria was discovered. The direction of the glacier's flow could not be ascertained from this, but observations on the varying trend of the moraine indicated a movement exactly south west.

The closest study of the party was made at a point about a mile north of the Methodist grave-yard, in Salem Township, on the road leading over Lee's Mountain. On the side of Lee's Mountain the evidence of glacial action were sparse, but in ascending it the finely exposed upper red shales of the Catskill were crossed. The Pocono sandstones and conglomerates, which form the crest of the mountain, are here only about half a mile distant from the same rocks in Huntington Mountain, just across Shickshinny Valley. The valley itself is traversed by the Little Shickshinny Creek, and is so filled with drift, and in many places with great bowlders, that the original formation, of Manoh Chunk red shale, if it was not completely eroded, is now hidden. The results of glacial action here are very interesting. It is plain that in the ice epoch, this trough must have acted as a great reservoir at the melting of the glacier, and a projection of the glacier itself no doubt extended down to Knob Mountain. The water finally levelled the crest of Lee's Mountain to a general average of one hundred feet below Huntington Mountain, and even cut its way to the south country by two gaps, about one and a half miles apart. Doubtless through these exits, much of the drift which forms the Berwick terrace today, came originally from Shickshinny Valley. At the same time, Lee's ridge held back much of the great masses which would have proved the ornaments of a more noticeable moraine, on its southern side.

The journey led back to Berwick through the eastern gap over fine roads from which a view to the east again exhibited the moraine. It was a highly satisfied party of gentlemen, decked with arbustus bouquets, who sat down to dinner at Berwick and returned to Kingston late in the afternoon.

The next expedition of the club will be directed to Sandy Run, where it is said the moraine is exceptionally well marked.

#### An Interesting Historical Novel.

Legend of the Delaware, an Historical Sketch of Tom Quick, the Indian Killer, by William Broes, A. M., Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois from 1865 to 1869.

This is the title of a work published some months ago in Chicago by one who, though not actively identified with Northeastern Pennsylvania for many years, yet has lost none of his love for his native heath. Gov. Broes has been prominently identified with the business and social life of Chicago for many years, yet his interest in Pennsylvania has never wavered for a moment. He was one of the interested guests at the Wyoming Centennial of 1878 and in this book the tragic history of Wyoming is closely interwoven with the stirring scenes along the Wallenpaupack, and the romantic—and somewhat legendary—life of Tom Quick, who is reputed to have killed ninety-nine Indians. To those who know Gov. Broes personally, the book has an additional charm, by reason of a most admirable steel portrait of the genial author, whose face is full of strong character, whose hand is never held back from a friend in need of sympathy or aid, and whose hair and beard are whitened by the winters of '75 years of an honorable and useful life.

Gov. Broes does not deal with Tom Quick as a creature of the fancy, though the narrative is fiction founded on fact, but as a real flesh and blood creation, of whom the author himself is a descendant. In an appended sketch of the Winfield family it appears that Tom Quick's niece, the heroine of the tale, was an own aunt of Gov. Broes.

The story opens with the flight from the Delaware Water Gap of Tom Quick and his niece, actual historical personages, who had escaped from Indian captivity and were making their way up Brodhead's Creek towards the settlement beyond the Pocono. In their wanderings Tom Quick kills a few Indians, and in chapter 6 the narrative is made interesting by the accidental meeting with two Wyoming heroes, Capt. Lazarus Stewart and Obadiah Gore, who were on their way from the recently desolated Wyoming Valley, by way of Cocheaton, to spend the winter in Connecticut. The party joined also by Walt Kimball, a Wallenpaupack scout, remained together several days in the security afforded by a combination of arms. Kimball relates how the people along the Paupack escaped on the 4th of July, 1778, a fugitive from the Wyoming massacre of the day previous, Hammond, having brought them the news of the slaughter. Kimball supplements his narrative with an

account of the early settlements of the Wallenpack, and who the Connecticut settlers were. Stewart and Gore are then pressed to tell the sad tale of Wyoming, to which some 20 pages are devoted in most interesting style. The company then go their various ways and ultimately reach their several destinations in safety, Gore having meanwhile fallen in love with the child of the forest, though her heart was afterwards to be won by a young Revolutionary officer, Lieut. Abraham Winfield.

The rest of the book is devoted to the Winfield Family history and to some excellent papers from the pen of Gov. Broes on scientific and political subjects. Gov. Broes cherishes a pardonable pride in having his name at the head of all the signers to the Emancipation Proclamation, Illinois having been the first State to ratify that immortal document, this action being taken the very next day after its adoption. As presiding officer of the Senate, his name stands first of all the signers.

#### Sullivan Campaign—Gansevoort's Journal.

[Letter to the Editor.]

In correspondence with Dr. William H. Egle, and through him and a research of the means on hand, I am satisfied that what is, or has been known as the Journal of Col. Gansevoort, consists of an introductory narrative, by Thomas Maxwell, of Elmira, and gleanings from other sources, taken from the Journal of Lieut. Charles Nukerok, subsequently captain in Col. Van Cortlandt's Regiment, 2d N. Y. Col. Stone gives it as the "diary of Capt. Theodosius Fowler;" Campbell in his history of Tryon County, as "Extracts from the manuscript Journal of an Officer."

The Nukerok Journal commences the march from Warwassing May 1, 1779, and on the 11th arrives at Fort Penn, Stroudsburg. From here the march on 14th was to Larné's, where they encamped in the fields and engaged in building roads, etc., and arrived in Wyoming on the 14th of June.

The Narrative connected with what is given with the Journal, called Gansevoort's, begins on May 1 at Warwassing, and arrives upon the Delaware on the 9th. It then says: "They crossed the Delaware and passed down the west side to Easton, at which place their stores were collected. From thence they marched towards Wyoming where they arrived the 17th of June."

Here is where a point of difference arises. Nukerok leaves the Delaware at or near Stroudsburg direct for Larné's, while the narrative goes down to Easton, and then back to Larné's, making a difference in distance traveled of about 83 miles, without any reason for so doing. There is evidently a

mistake on the part of the person writing the narrative, and a mixing up possibly of two journals.

The journal of Lieut. Hardenbergh agrees with that of Nukerok, and of its correctness there is no doubt. The march from Fort Penn was direct to Larné's and so on to Wyoming, building a road, and not to Easton.

STUBBS JENKINS.

Wyoming, Jan. 24, 1888.

P. S.—In reference to the Dearborn and Norris journals I received the following on March 8th from Dr. D. Williams Patterson, of Newark Valley, N. Y.: "In 1874 I went to Buffalo to see the Norris journal. I recognized at once the identity of the authorship or origin with that in Hill's Patriot, but I think at that time I had no knowledge of Col. Dearborn's. Dearborn and Norris were in one regiment and doubtless in one mess, and what more natural than for them to write up their journal together by their camp fire, or, even in some cases, that the Major should make the entries in the Colonel's journal. One of the two, doubtless, gave Gen. Sullivan the imperfect copy which was found in his papers, but which was not published in the collection."

Dr. Patterson here intimates that besides the two copies about which much has been said, another imperfect one was found in Gen. Sullivan's papers. While this is a factor in the problem sought to be solved, it still fails to explain, and only adds to the multitudinous character of the Norris journal without explaining why it is so in an entirely satisfactory manner. He is probably correct.

S. J.

#### A White Haven Lady Dead.

Elizabeth Fuller, widow of the late W. W. Fuller, died at her residence in White Haven Wednesday, May 9. Mrs. Fuller was born Jan. 6, 1812, and at the age of 23 was converted and united with the M. E. Church, and up to the day of her death lived a thorough and devoted Christian life. She had one daughter, Mrs. Seymour Stearns, and one son, John Elliot.

Mrs. Fuller's death resulted from paralysis. The funeral took place May 11 at 2 o'clock, interment at White Haven Cemetery.

#### Born in Hanover Township.

Anna Maria Van Horn, wife of the late T. R. Van Horn, who died at her late residence, on May 12, at 4 pm., was the daughter of Philip Abbott, born in Hanover Township, Jan. 30, 1812. She was always an earnest Christian, a member of the M. E. Church, and the mother of five children, Merritt A., Edward and Ebbert, all deceased, and Miss Anna Van Horn and Mrs. Joseph Winder, whom she lives behind.

### A CENTURY AT FORTY FORT.

Services at the Old Church and a Retrospect of its History—Addresses by Hon. Steuben Jenkins and Rev. J. K. Peck.

It is a hundred years since the first Methodist class was established in Wyoming Valley and 80 years since the old church at Forty Fort was erected. Interesting exercises were held in the quaint old edifice June 4, 1888, and its high backed unpainted pews were all occupied, as were the stairways leading to the gallery.

Among those present were: Major Hicks, Hon. John B. Smith, Franklin Helme, Rev. M. D. Fuller, John D. Hoyt, F. C. Johnson, Dr. Corss, Rev. J. G. Eckman, Rev. F. A. Chapman, William A. Wilcox, Wm. Loveland, Judge Wm. S. Wells, Hon. H. B. Payne, Laurence Myers, Rev. W. Keatley, M. D. Wilson, Rev. Miner Swallow, Rev. F. vonKrug, Rev. J. Underwood, R. C. Shoemaker. Some of the gentlemen sat on little stools that appeared to be relics.

Hon. L. D. Shoemaker presided. Rev. Henry H. Welles offered prayer and the assemblage sang a hymn to the tune of "Old Hundred," led by a former choir singer—Hon. Steuben Jenkins. Mr. Shoemaker briefly stated the object of the meeting. He said the church had been built at a time when the settlers were few and poor. Its architecture was a thing of the past and but few such churches now existed. It was desirable that the old structure be preserved just as it is. This would be done, as it and the burying ground belong to an incorporated organization.

Against the side opposite the door is a pulpit curiously paneled, the rail of which is about 12 feet above the floor. It is approached by a winding stair. Fronting the pulpit are two rows of high pews, with doors, each pew seating seven or eight persons. Against the four walls are square enclosures slightly raised above the pews, with benches all around. Each window has 24 small panes of glass. The gallery runs around three sides and is reached by two flights of winding stairs in the corners. The gallery is supported by turned wooden pillars about 10 inches in diameter. The gallery is broad and level and from its rear part the spectator could just see the head of the preacher. The timbers in the frame project through the plastering into the room and some show the hewed surface, though most of them are oiled. Against some of them are the rude brackets upon which candles can be set—in fact, no more modern method of lighting has even been provided.

The building is longer than it is wide. There are three windows on the ground floor of each end, and four on the sides. The

interior woodwork has never been painted, though the walls and ceiling are neatly whitewashed.

The speakers of the day were Hon. Steuben Jenkins, who treated of the Presbyterian history of the church, and Rev. J. K. Peck who narrated its Methodist history. Both addresses were so elaborate as to preclude their being reproduced, except in brief outline, in a daily paper. It was ordered, however, that they be printed in pamphlet form.

Mr. Jenkins said that the old edifice was begun in 1807, and was completed in the summer of 1808. The speaker had not been able to learn whether there was any formal dedication. This, was the first finished church edifice in which religious services were held, not only in Wyoming, but throughout all Northern Pennsylvania. The architect and builder was Joseph Hitchcock, probably of New Haven. Gideon Underwood made the pulpit. The Building Committee was Benjamin Dorrance, Daniel Hoyt, Elijah Shoemaker, Lazarus Denison and Luke Swetland. The lime was hauled from Lime Ridge. The style of architecture is unique and but few such structures remain. There is one in Wickford, R. I., one in Newport, R. I., and another in Richmond, Va. But this style was common 150 to 200 years ago.

Among the first to preach, if not first, in this house was Rev. Ard Hoyt, a Congregationalist minister from Danbury, Conn.; a Puritan of the straightest sort. He was installed pastor of the church in Wilkes-Barre and Kingston in August 1808. He resigned in 1817 to go as a missionary to the Cherokee Indians, in Tennessee, where he died in 1828.

He was succeeded by the missionary labors of Rev. Eleazer S. Borrowes, [Rev. Hutchins Taylor and Rev. D. Moulton. Rev. Hutchins Taylor organized the separate Congregational Church in Kingston, in 1818. These were succeeded by Rev. Cyrus Gilderleeve, 1821 to 1829. He was succeeded by Rev. Nicholas Murray, of whom Mr. Jenkins gave an interesting detailed sketch. It was under the latter's ministry that the church in Wilkes-Barre changed from Congregationalism to Presbyterianism. He was born and educated in the Roman Catholic Church, and his controversial correspondence with Bishop Hughes, over the *nom de plume* of "Kirwan," is historic.

Rev. John Dorrance came to the Wilkes-Barre Church in 1838 and was pastor until his death in 1861.

At this point Mr. Jenkins gave a sketch of the Forty Fort burying ground, together with a review of the religious situation at Wyoming previous to the erection of the old church; the coming of Rev. Wm. Marsh

in 1768 and his massacre with the other settlers; the services of Rev. Geo. Beckwith, of Lyme, in 1770, and the ministry of Rev. Jacob Johnson, 1772 to 1797. Rev. Elias Bunschoten was here about 1790, and organized a church in Hanover in 1791. He was followed in 1792 by Rev. Andrew Gray, of Ireland, who married a daughter of Capt. Lazarus Stewart. In 1791 the Congregationalists began to act in the matter of a meeting house in Wilkes-Barre. In 1808 the house was forwarded through the instrumentality of a lottery. Finally in 1812 Mr. Hitchcock, builder of the Forty Fort church, was enabled to finish what was claimed as the most elegant church in Northern Pennsylvania.

Rev. J. K. Peck spoke in substance as follows:

To-day we occupy sacred and hallowed ground. A moral revolution commenced right here 100 years ago. Just before the terrible 8d of July, 1778, the few inhabitants were warned by signal guns at Forty Fort that there was great danger from the Indians, and all must come here for safety. So they came, mostly women and children. One family living at the mill in the place now called Luzerne Borough, came in sad procession. Some of them were sick, and a team was procured and a file of soldiers went from here to see that they come in safely. One child was carried on a litter. Deborah, only 5 years old, was brought in a wheelbarrow to the fort by one of the soldier boys. Grand boy and precious girl—Asa Gore and Deborah Sutton. The boy fell in the battle of a few days after. The girl died in 1839, aged 98 years.

That terrible day is historic, especially to us who celebrate the religious movement then commenced. A Connecticut boy was in the battle, fled with the few patriots who escaped, and prayed for pardon and mercy while he ran. While hiding under a grape vine near this spot, he prayed. The river was running crimson and the dead bodies of patriots were floating down from Monocoonock Island. He could hear the wild shouts of the tory and savage victors and the shrieks of the defeated victims. There he lay and prayed until he found peace with God and came out from his hiding place when the fort was surrendered to the bloody foe. Then he joined the fugitives to Connecticut. Returning again he built a log house and commenced work as a mechanic and as a laborer for God. This was Anning Owen, converted during the massacre, without church or minister.

After the capitulation Deborah Sutton's father constructed a frail ark and he and Dr. Lemuel Gustin, with their families escaped down the river. Several months later

they returned to find house and mill destroyed. Mr. Sutton built a mill across the river from Forty Fort.

Anning Owen commenced meetings on Ross Hill, and just 100 years ago a class was organized consisting of the following persons:

Anning Owen and wife, Mr. Gray and wife, Abram Adams, Stephen Baker and wife, Mrs. Woolley, Nancy Woolley, Deborah Sutton, then 18 years of age.

That class erected a meeting house on Hanover Green, after five years of toil and worship in barns and private houses. That first church is gone entirely.

Three years had passed, when James Campbell came to Wyoming, and the Ross Hill class now numbered a hundred members. Two years later William Colbert arrived from General Conference at Baltimore, coming up the Susquehanna. He slept on the floor at Aaron Hunt's, and then pushed on up the river as far as Tioga, returning later to Wyoming. He spent four months up the river, preaching and organizing, and received three dollars and fourteen cents for his four months' labor. He came down the river in a boat with Thomas Ware. On April 16, 1793, he landed at Wilkes-Barre, dined at Mr. Mann's, and then rode to Richard Iaman's, dined with three sisters in a mill. May 19 he preached in Hanover Green meeting house. Ruth, Alice and Hannah Pearce, Samuel Carver and his father, Joseph Brown, Capt. Ebenezer Parrish and wife, and Darius Williams and wife had already joined the Ross Hill class. Hanover Green meeting house was their preaching place. A class was formed.

The interest traveled up the valley. Philip Jackson lived across the street from where Wyoming monument now stands and there was preaching at his house, as also quarterly meetings. One quarterly meeting held there in 1795 was in charge of that wonderful man, Valentine Cook. Mr. Peck here described this meeting as one of such great spiritual power that a great revival followed.

On July 19, 1807, Bishop Aebury preached in the woods on the spot where this church now stands. Anning Owen was now presiding elder and Benjamin Bidlack was a preacher and stood beside him. Bidlack had served in Washington's army and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. A revival swept over the valley. Anning Owen baptised and received into the church Rogers Searle, who was a fellow fugitive from the massacre and hid beneath the same grapevine under which Owen was converted. Hannah Courtright, widow of the late John Abbott, was among the converts. She is still living in Wilkes-Barre, at the age of 90. Col. Denton, who led the left wing on the

fatal 3d of July became a member of the church and an active supporter of the itinerant ministers. Five years before the battle the first marriage was consummated here in the Bennet cabin. The groom was Col. Nathan Denison and the bride was Betsey Sill. Elizabeth, wife of their son Lazarus, was a member of the first class formed here.

In 1819 Geo. Evans, a raftman exhorted here in his rough garb and so powerful was the impression that a great revival followed and Evans became a minister. He died in 1849.

While Elisha Bibbins was in charge in 1820 Ziba Bennett, Sharp D. Lewis, Lord Butler and Anning Owen Chahoon joined. The circuit reached from Northumberland to Meshoppen on both sides of the river and to Montrose. The old church at Forty Fort was the centre and rallying point.

About 1824 Benjamin Bidlack, then a superannuated preacher, formed a class here. One member, Elizabeth Bennet, widow of Henry Polen, is living. Her father was Andrew Bennet, who with his father and one other man disarmed and defeated seven Indians at Meshoppen, killing five of them. Others of that early day were Elizabeth Denison, Elizabeth Denison Shoemaker, Betsey Van Buskirk, Col. Nathan Denison, Mallie Jenkins, Betsey Myers (afterwards Locke), Mary Bennet, Asa, John, Polly and Sally Gore, Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Pettebone, Amanda Gates, William Church, Sarah Ann Underwood, Abbie Church and many others.

In 1818 Rev. George Peck preached in this house his first sermon in this valley and it was in this edifice that Lorenzo Dow preached, Dec. 8, 1833.

For 100 years there has been a regular line of pastors from Anning Owen to Francis Aesbury Chapman: Valentine Cook, George Hannon, Marmaduke Pearce, George Lane, Silas Comfort, Horace Agard, Gideon Draper, and many others. There have been times when the regular circuit preachers could not have appointments here but the class and prayer meetings were kept up. Rev. T. L. Cuyler has preached in this pulpit. Rev. Thomas P. Hunt lectured on temperance here.

The little society that a hundred years ago could have been drawn to meeting by one yoke of oxen has now grown to five conferences, numbering a hundred thousand members.

The old Hanover church is the mother of all and this Forty Fort church is the next. Anning Owen, the founder, died in April, 1814, in Ulster, Oswego County, N. Y., in the 63d year of his age. His wife, who had joined the Rose Hill class with him, survived him only 12 hours.

Between Forty Fort and Kingston is the Owen house, where that wonderful trio, Valentine Cook, Wm. Colbert and Anning Owen, met 95 years ago to plan the conquest of the continent from Maryland to Canada.

I love this old church. Here rest the Bennets of four generations. Here I received my first license to exhort in 1849 and I greet some friends to-day who greeted me then.

Chairman Shoemaker called for important remarks from Dr. F. Cores, Rev. H. H. Welles, Rev. Miner Swallow, who heard Father Moister preach at a revival in this church in 1833; Rev. William Keatly, who gave some recollections after 1857; and Hon. John B. Smith.

Rev. Mr. Welles gave some interesting reminiscences. He took exceptions to the statement of Mr. Jenkins, that Rev. Ard Hoyt was a believer in infant damnation, a doctrine which was in nowise warranted by Presbyterianism. But Ard Hoyt was a stern Puritan, so much so that he refused to unite Mr. Welles' father to one of the lambs of his flock, as it was believed Mr. Welles entertained skeptical views. They were afterwards married by Squire Dyer, who became so confused that he made the bride promise to support her husband, which she covenanted to do.

The exercises closed with the singing of Coronation and the pronouncing of the benediction by Rev. J. G. Eckman. The assemblage then dispersed, many remaining, however, to inspect the old church.

#### Indian Bones Exhumed.

Uriah Beacham, a farmer living on the Kingston flats, near the second pondhole, on May 10, while plowing turned up what are no doubt the remains of an Indian. Located on a small hill, directly opposite his house, is what is known to have been an Indian burying ground. In 1836 Indian remains were taken out here. They consisted of the skeleton of a warrior who had been buried with all the pomp of his warlike surroundings. His pipe and tomahawk were beside him and numerous pots, kettles, etc., were found placed around the bones. The relics were removed and taken possession of by the Historical Society, of Wilkes-Barre. Every year, after a heavy storm, a part of the earth is washed down from the hillside, so that graves that were at one time six or eight feet in depth are now two or three feet from the surface. The skeleton that Mr. Beacham took out was covered with about 18 inches of earth.—*Kingston Times*.

### RELICS OF THE OLDEN TIMES.

#### Colony of Maryland, Bladensburg, Duelling Ground, Distinguished Settlers, The Nanticookes, Bladen-Deringer.

Of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Maryland, the following interesting sketch of the history of the old colony we extract from *The Baltimorean*, in which the historic Bladensburg, Nanticookes of Wyoming Valley, the celebrated Rifle and Pistol, and the union of the illustrious names are mentioned, associated with so many historic and thrilling episodes would fill volumes of soul-stirring events.

Charles Calvert, Lord Baron of Baltimore, was appointed by King Charles, of England, Proprietary of the Provinces, and was nominated by the King Terra-Maria Maryland, in honor of Henrietta Maria, daughter of Henry IV, King of France and Navarre, and sister of Louis XIII. called Queen Mary.

The Colonists embarked on the Ark of Maryland and the Dove, and land at old Point Virginia.

No colony was so distinguished with the English nobility and patriots of the Revolution as Maryland. King Charles in alluding to this Province said, "that the aforesaid region may be distinguished above all other regions of that country, and decorated with more ample titles. I have thought fit that the said region and islands be united into one Province, and nominate the same Maryland, by which name we will that it shall from henceforth be called."

The colonists were composed of men of fortune and rank, with their servants of Celtic, Gothic, Slavonic and even Hametic origin, Papists and Protestants. Governor Bladen and William Penn made the treaty on the dividing line of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

It was in 1742 when Governor Thomas Bladen made the treaty with the Six Nations (Indians) for the sum of £300, by which they disclaimed all pretence or right, whatsoever, to the Province. The Nanticookes, a part of the Six Nations, were permitted to leave Maryland after the treaty, and they paddled their canoes up the Susquehanna to the Wyoming Valley and there settled. The name of the town of Nanticooke was taken from these Indians. In 1794 provisional government was formed and Thomas Johnson made Governor of the first State. James Calhoun became first mayor of Baltimore. In 1774 the Peggy Stewart was burnt with the first cargo of tea.

The Hon. Benjamin Tasker married Ann, daughter of William Bladen, brother of the Governor, and their daughters were the Lady

Essex, and the Duchess of Wellealy. Another of the Bladen ancestors was the Sir Thomas Bladen, admiral, captain, who commanded the frigate that brought Sir James Foster in 1810 as envoy to the United States. Daniel Dulany, the famous Barrister, Attorney General and Judge of Admiralty under the administrations of Governors Bladen, Ogle and Sharp, said to be the equal of Pitt, Sheridan, and Fox married Harriet, daughter of Benjamin Tasker, and granddaughter of William Bladen. Captain Sharp Dulaney and Bladen Dulaney, U. S. N., are scions. Their descendants are the most aristocratic families in Maryland and Virginia.

#### BLADENSBURG DUELLING GROUND.

Bladensburg is located on the B. & O. RR. at the head of a small craft navigation, six miles from Washington City, around which cluster the most thrilling events, and derived its name from Governor Bladen. It is noted for the battle fought in the war of 1812, when Henry Deringer was the principal armorer of the United States in the manufacture of rifles for the war department; and is known as the famous duelling ground where the deadly weapon known as the "Deringer," was used in the code of honor.

Here just behind the line which separates the District of Columbia from the State of Maryland, is the secluded amphitheatre embowered in trees, which has witnessed so many tragic scenes. Upon this quiet spot many a tall form and full brow of promise, many a head honored among men and bearing the ashen locks of age, have fallen prone to earth, red with blood, whose founts were pierced with the little balls of that famous weapon which the ingenious brain of Deringer gave to the world many years ago.

Of all the weapons in modern warfare, or worn by the chivalrous defender of honor, none have been so effective as "the Deringer." It has been the unerring arbiter in dual encounter; the most fatal Nemesis in the hands of retribution; the most pitiless harbinger of revenge and hate; the most unflinching ally of justice and crime the world has ever seen. The little bullets seek their victims with the speed of the sun's rays. From the populous East to the wild western borders, beyond the nascent spray of the Oregon, and the grand river De Soto, the pioneer's trustiest friend, the hunter's best *vade mecum* was found in the inimitably perfect pistol and rifle which has borne the name of Deringer. It is a household *lar* of safety in every section of this continent, and every country of Europe. Wherever the Deringer has been the messenger of fate to man, daily records bear witness to the irresistible



power which lurks in these light and delicate servants of purple death.

The genius of invention which directed the young and ambitious inventor in the manufacture of fire arms, and his renowned success, gave him recognition by the United States, and the governments of sovereign states as early as 1806, when he made the first rifles for the Indians, he found acknowledged genius, the best pass word for entree into the circle of political magnates of the capital, whither the application of his enterprise summoned him, and where warm and friendly interest was extended to him. General Andrew Jackson and other presidents, and the prominent men of the country were his personal friends.

It is a singular incident that of the union of Bladen and Derringer, by the marriage of the Calhoun Mason Deringer, son of the great inventor, with Martha A., daughter of the late Thomas Bladen of Virginia, lineal to this illustrious ancestry, one of which conferred upon Bladensburg its name and the other who imparted to it fame. By this honorable descent are the sons Henry, Clarence and Reginald Calhoun. The only one of the male line is Thomas Penn Bladen, brother of Mrs. Calhoun Deringer.

#### One of Penn's Paper Books.

Dr. W. H. Egle, State Librarian, has recently come into possession of a valuable relic, which he obtained under rather peculiar circumstances. The doctor is an early visitor to the library, and one morning his mail contained a catalogue of the celebrated book antiquarian, Bernard Quaritch, of London. His attention was attracted to the title of a book which struck him as so valuable that he immediately cabled his order to London. The wisdom of his prompt action was shown by the fact that when the book afterwards reached him it was accompanied with a note from Mr. Quaritch saying that later in the day cable inquiries had come from libraries in several large cities in the United States. It is a paper book of the Penns and there are 111 pages, each page being 12 by 18½ inches. The date is 1740 and the title is as follows:

"In chancery

Breviate.

John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, plaintiffs.

Charles Calvert, Esq, Lord Baltimore, in the Kingdom Ireland, defendant.

For the plaintiffs.

Upon a bill to compel a specific execution of articles of agreement entered into between the partys for settling the boundaries of the Province of Pensilvania, the Three

Lower Counties, and the Province of Maryland and for perpetuating testimony."

The book is valuable, as giving the testimony of a large number of settlers from the Maryland line as far north as Harrisburg.

#### The Gildersleeve Episode.

EDITOR RECORD: Mr. Lathrop errs in thinking that Mr. Gildersleeve was ridden upon a fully appointed "horse" prepared for the occasion. I saw the cavalcade as it came up Market Street and turned into Franklin, and after passing the Dennis corner they left the side walk as if intending to take the direct line to Mr. Gildersleeve's house. Hon. Andrew Beaumont met them there and they lowered their freight to the ground. Mrs. Gildersleeve came almost at the same time and they two escorted him home.

The rail was a plain 3x4 hemlock scantling sixteen feet long and the same stick was afterwards fitted up with legs about three feet long and furnished with the horns and tail, and had a place smoothed off for a saddle, and also had, I think, rough leather stirrups. I examined the animal accoutered as it was in the yard of Isaac Bowman's currying shop. I understood the threat of further outrage to be aimed at Mr. Gildersleeve and his friends, and in that direction it was effective, as the thought of prosecution was abandoned.

G. H. WELLES.

Wyalusing, Pa., April 4, 1888.

#### An Old Lady Traveling.

Mrs. Blanchard, of Port Blanchard, is nearing her 85th birthday, but she is in the enjoyment of good health. May 21 in company with her granddaughter, Mrs. G. W. Moss, of Washington, she left for a short visit in that city to her daughter, mother of Mrs. Moss, who is the wife of Col. Peter H. Allabaugh. Mrs. Blanchard is a sister of the late John Lazarus, and of George Lazarus, still living on his farm in Hanover. She comes of a long lived stock, and bids fair to reach her 100th year.

#### The Schropp Genealogy.

The Schropp Family of Northampton County genealogy is given by Dr. Egle in the *Harrisburg Telegraph's* department of *Notes and Queries* for May 26, 1888. It is this family to which the late William Henry, of Wyoming, (father of Thomas Henry Atherton, Esq., of Wilkes Barre,) belonged. William (b. at Nazareth, 1794, d. at Wyoming, Pa., 1878) was a son of Saybina Schropp, who in 1769, at Nazareth, married William Henry.) The Schropps had come from Germany in 1743 with the second Moravian colony.

**Memorial Hall Fair.**

During the month of May a fair was given in the armory to raise a fund towards a memorial building for the Grand Army of the Republic. It lasted from May 15 to May 22, and realized about \$18,000.

The following is taken from the reports of the Daily Record:

It is generally thought that the exhibit outrivals that of the famous armory fair, with the advantage of having a much more roomy and suitable place for carrying out so large an undertaking. There are 26 booths, down the sides and a row in the centre. These are constructed after artistic designs and are decorated in a manner that is both striking and in good taste.

The managers are Hon. J. Ridgway Wright, Dr. O. F. Harvey, George C. Lewis, and the lady managers are Mrs. J. W. Hillman, Mrs. G. E. Lennard, Mrs. C. B. Metzger, Mrs. S. J. Tonkin, Mrs. T. C. Parker, Mrs. Dr. Harvey, Mrs. H. N. Sherman, Miss Cornelia Hillman and Miss Emma Reets.

The Reception Committee comprises Hon. C. E. Rice, Hon. Charles A. Miner, Hon. Stanley Woodward, Hon. D. L. Rhone, Hon. E. L. Dana, Hon. John Lynch, Hon. C. B. Sutton, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker and Hon. H. B. Payne.

C. B. Metzger and E. F. Roth have charge of the tickets and the Committee on Hall Arrangements comprises Col. F. M. Shoemaker, Major G. R. Lennard, Giles Rose and T. F. Ryman.

The Honorary Committee includes Gen. E. S. Osborne, Col. G. Murray Reynolds, Col. R. B. Bicketts, J. W. Hollenback, A. T. McClintock, E. G. Scott, J. C. Phelps, N. Rutter, Peter Forve, B. Burgunder, H. B. Hillman, J. W. Patten, N. P. Jordan, Oscar Smith, L. C. Darte, Fred Ahlborn, R. F. Walsh, H. J. Deunin, W. D. Stoddart, Aaron Whitaker, Col. B. F. Stark, Hon. E. O. Wadhams, M. B. Haupt, Geo. S. Bennett, Hon. M. B. Williams, W. S. McLean, Robt. Baur, M. Morris, T. S. Hillard, L. Myers, John McGahren, and L. Landmesser.

One of the most interesting booths is the quaint old New England Kitchen. By an open fire place, in which hangs a kettle, and which lacks only the chirp of the cricket on the hearth, sit a bevy of fair maidens attired in the costumes of their grandmothers, knitting, quilting or sewing carpet rags, and of course gossiping. Aunt Trumbower, 84 years old, is spinning flax and selling the thread for a dime a skein. She is the center of attraction. On the walls are bunches of all kinds of "yerbs," strings of dried apples, ears of seed corn, slices of dried pumpkin, with candles on the mantel, though they are not "dips." An upright clock, a warming pan 100 years old, a chair 125 years old, a flax wheel 139 years old,

tongs which came over in the Mayflower, are to be seen. Dames greet the visitor with a courtesy and stand ready to sell him doughnuts, smear case, pie and milk or almost any country substantial liable to be asked for.

**MUSEUM OF RELICS.**

Appended are some of the conspicuous curiosities:

Drum used in the War of 1812 and supposed to have been used by Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard's company in Pittston Fort on July 8, 1778.

Powder horn, July 29, 1776, of Nathaniel Gates, loaned by Carlisle Gates.

Gun made over 100 years ago by a prisoner in the Wilkes-Barre Jail.

Chair, which was in Forty Fort in 1778, belonging to Michael Pace, brother of Margaret Lark, and grandfather of J. L. Pace, of Larksville. Michael died at 103, Margaret at 107. Exhibited by Anna Barnes Mack.

Pewter sugar bowl, buried with other dishes at the time of the flight from Wyoming Massacre by Anderson Dana. Exhibited by his granddaughter, Mrs. M. E. Manville.

Sword presented by "Old Michael," to Dr. Miner on his death bed and by him to Col. A. H. Bowman, U. S. A. The sword bears the date of 572 years ago. Loaned by Mrs. Bowman.

Stirrups worn by Gen. Gains all through the Florida War and presented by him to Col. A. H. Bowman.

Portrait of Gen. Wm. Ross, painted in 1815; also the sword presented to him by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania for his release of Col. Pickering and arrest of the alleged rioters, July 4, 1783; also his brace of horse pistols, property of W. R. Maffet.

Picture of Penn's Treaty, published in London in 1775. Heese & Bro.

Photograph of Mrs. Sarah Hoyt and Mrs. Hannah Jones, taken at 80. They were two daughters of Wm. Gallup and were six years old at the time of the massacre. They were prisoners with the rest of the family at Forty Fort. Mrs. Sophia Curtis.

Sabre from Custer's massacre.

Hand bills of 1861-2 for companies being recruited by Capt. G. R. Lennard, Lieut. J. W. Gilchrist, Lieut. W. G. Graham, Capt. E. W. Wandall, all of whom, except the last one are at the fair.

Various arms and accoutrements worn and carried by individuals during the rebellion.

Case of war relics exhibited by H. C. Miller, Kingston.

Case of war relics exhibited by T. R. Conner. Including what little remained of his knapsack after being struck by a shell at

Spottsylvania, killing five of Co. D, 61st P. V., including Thomas Ellis, Wm. Ward, and Crandall Wilcox, of Wilkes-Barre. There is also an album which diverted the shell previous to its explosion. Mr. Conner was lying on the ground, the knapsack on his back.

Case of relics, loaned by the Historical Society.

Sword found at Fort Hell by William Bauer.

J. J. McDermott's testament, carried through the war.

Collection of relics, loaned by Ely Post, G. A. R.

Last issue of the Vicksburg *Citizen* before Grant captured the city.

Articles worn by Ellen J. Hollenback, (mother of John W. Hollenback) 80 years ago. Shawl, sash, party dress, wedding slippers, wedding veil worn by mother and daughter. Loaned by C. W. Bixby.

Testament with a bullet in it. Saved the life of Myron Strickland, Sunday, May 3, 1863, at the battle of Chancellorsville.

Law book 200 years old. Loaned by Hon. Charles A. Miner.

Forceps for extracting bullets from wounds. H. S. Mack.

Case of Asteo relics and North Carolina minerals, S. D. Howe.

Solid shot from siege of Petersburg. Capt. B. W. Marcy, U. S. Signal Corps.

A pass through the Union lines, Oct. 25, 1864, signed by President Lincoln. Mrs. James Waddell, Kingston.

Revolver captured by Capt. Alfred Dart, Jr., from Capt. Lee, of Mosby's Cavalry, in December 1863.

Cane from mansion of Robert E. Lee. J. W. Marcy.

Shot gun captured with a Confederate picket at Coggins Point, Va., in July, 1862, by Capt. Alfred Dart, Sr. Revolver captured by same from Major Lacy, of Lee's Army, near the Wildernees, in June, 1862.

Knapsack; used in Andersonville by J. O. Turner, known as "Happy Jim," S. D. Clark, Kingston.

Confederate bond \$1,000, issued in 1864, coupons all attached. L. C. Dart.

"Johnnie Reb" slouch hat picked up in the Peach Orchard, Gettysburg. D. S. Clark, Kingston.

One of the first shells fired from Fort Sumter on Moultrie prior to surrender in 1861. C. H. Reinard.

Diary of I. R. Tubbs kept in Andersonville. Mrs. Fred Shoemaker.

Spears used by Confederates at Fort Wagner, Morris Island, S. C., in 1863; Continental currency. H. C. Miller, Kingston.

Spy glass captured on blockade runner, "Stonewall Jackson," S. C., 1863. Pre-

sented to and used by Lieut. John D. Colvin, U. S. Signal Corps, in deciphering the rebel signal codes. He deciphered seven different signal codes including their cipher codes.

Knife, spoons, rings and chess men made and carved by Capt. J. H. Bowman while confined in Libby Prison.

Haversack containing a day's rations of corn meal and wood, of Reuben Wilson, deceased, member of Co. F, 7th Pa. Reserves, in Andersonville.

Crimean medals presented by the British Government to John Townsend, an English soldier, now of Ely Post.

Turkish and British medals presented by the Sultan and Queen for gallant service in Afghanistan and Crimea.

Sections from pine trees cut at Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga, containing bullets and fragments of shells. J. E. Lewis, Scranton.

Two fifteen-inch shells fired by Monitor Weehawken in siege of Fort Wagner, Morris Island, S. C., September, 1863. Presented by Capt. J. W. Gilchrist to Ely Post.

Rebel sharp shooter rifle, captured at Fort Fisher, N. C. H. S. Mack.

Suit of Japanese armor. J. B. Carpenter, U. S. A.

Sword taken from dead body of a Union soldier, at Antietam. The body was impaled and the sword stuck in the ground. The blood still on the blade. The sword was carried by a major of the 8th Georgia Grays, who was killed in a hand to hand fight. Major Beach.

Gettysburg relics. Wm. E. Lines. First-bass horn of Wyoming Jaegers, Wilkes-Barre, 1850, John Reichard, captain. B. H. Brodhun.

Flag carried by 9th Pa. Cavalry, through the war. Capt. Bertels.

Knapsack lost by Mayor O. B. Sutton at Fair Oaks and found two days later, while carrying off the dead and wounded.

Confederate Note Memorial. A. F. Hitchler, Plymouth.

Case of Capt. S. F. Bossard, containing war and Indian relics.

Portrait of Lieut. Henry Bertels, killed at Petersburg, June 18, 1864.

Indian blanket woven by hand, by a Pueblo squaw. Capt. Bossard.

Fac simile of elaborate piece of penwork, list of 1000 officers in Libby Prison. Drawn by a Missouri soldier and exhibited by Capt. Byron Davis, 71st P. V., who saw much of the work done.

Guidon of Ricketts Battery. Exhibited by Col. R. B. Ricketts.

Piece of the flag of the 61st Pennsylvania, carried at Fair Oaks, in which battle the regiment lost 267 men, The flag of which this is a fragment, was wrapped around the

dead body of the colonel. Exhibited by Major O. A. Parsons.

The latter's picture after being released from Libby prison in 1862.

First telegraph instrument used in Wilkes-Barre. Henry O. Tucker.

"Housewife," carried through the entire war until February, 1866, by O. E. Hungerford.

Hand spike, captured at Coal Harbor. Robert Tucker.

Hard tack of 1862. Joseph Auten.

Piece of shell that killed Thomas O. Tucker, at Spottsylvania. Robert Tucker.

Iron shackles, worn with chain attachment by Rev. John Aughey, now of Mountain Top, while a prisoner at Turpelo, Miss., under sentence of death, in 1862. He escaped, was pursued by cavalry and blood hounds, was once captured and returned to prison, but three days before his contemplated execution he made his final escape, and after incredible hardships reached the Federal lines at Rienzi, Miss.

Indian scalp lock. Geo. McLean.

Spears from Egypt, Chinese gun, war implements from South Pacific Islands. T. R. Hillard.

Gun cleaner, carried through Mexican War by L. C. Kidder.

Silhouette of Eleazar Dana, brother of Anderson Dana, made in 1811.

Sabre, carried through the war by Letter Carrier J. Fred Kappler.

Sword captured from Santa Anna when City of Mexico was taken.

Cane of Santa Anna taken at his headquarters after battle of Cerro Gordo. Gold headed and diamond studded. Loaned by Gen. E. L. Dana, a Mexican veteran.

Major G. R. Lennard exhibits two cases of relics, among which are these:

Photograph of the original ordinance of secession; brick from Fort Sumter; coquina, a shell material used in construction of Fort Marion, St. Augustine, Fla., over 300 years ago; piece of the "dead line," Andersonville; palmetto cane from inside Sumter; Gen. Hardee's (O. S. A.) original report of battle of Perryville; Confederate currency; cedar book containing sliding portrait of Major Lennard at Morris Island, S. C., in 1864; program of 4th of July celebration in Beaufort, S. C., in 1863, given by the 52d P. V.; program of raising Union flag on Sumter, 1865; relics of Fair Oaks, where Major Lennard was hit by two bullets; accoutrements worn by him during service; prayer book carried throughout the war; combination trunk, used in 1861, but a luxury which had to be soon given up.

#### Some Old Accounts.

The following are all separate accounts, copied from an old pocket account book of Elisha Blackman, Senior, of Wilkes-Barre. As they relate to matters of emigration from Connecticut to Westmoreland they are sent to the HISTORICAL RECORD for what they are worth as local history.

H. B. PLUMS.

NORWICH, October ye 26, 1778.

John Dougherty, Debtor.  
To cash one dollar..... £0 8 0  
To cash one dollar..... 0 8 0  
To payment for your frate..... 0 3 0  
To bording 2 weeks..... 0 12 0  
To git your chist to the minesinks 0 3 0

New York, October ye 27, 1778.

To Frate for Mr. Uriah Chapman for Mill Irons from Norwich to New York\*\*..... 0 4 6  
To giting them on bord..... 0 1 0  
For trouble ..... 0 1 0

Frate from Norwich to New York. 0 4 6  
For giting them on bord..... 0 1 0  
To frate from New York to Windsor 0 3 0  
To trouble..... 0 2 0

Goshen, November ye 30, 1778.

Paid to Capt. Davison for frate... 2 4 6  
Payment to Isaac Shults..... 0 4 0  
Payment to Nat. Owens..... 1 4 6

#### OTHER EXTRACTS.

Westmoreland, June ye 20th, 1778.

Thomas Ellis, Dotor,  
To payment to Cornal Butler for a Draft in a township..... £0 6 0  
January 26, 1778, to taking out the Lot and putting into Spring-field ..... 1 4 0  
To one day spent..... 0 6 0  
1 16 0

Westmoreland, January 26, 1778.

Joseph Blackman, Dotor,  
To payment on half a right in the purchase..... 2 1 0  
For payment on laying out your Lot..... 1 4 0  
To time spent..... 0 10 0  
3 15 0

May 21, 1778.

John Ewens\*, Dotor.  
To half Bushel of seed corn..... £0 2 0  
To cash two Dollars..... 0 12 0  
To seven days of myself and man to help in with your famaly..... 1 8 0  
To cash I spent..... 0 6 0  
To one day and half work..... 0 3 0  
To the Boys 3 days (Boys one 13, one 11, and one 8 years)..... 0 3 0

To one Bushel of ots..... 0 1 6  
To meet and Bred to carry with  
you to Shemoken..... 0 1 0

[\*\*These were for a mill at what was then Parkbury, (see *Historical Record*, vol. 2, p. 78,) later known to the people as the Lackaway settlement, now Paupack. Mr. Chapman had a mill there.]

[\*This was a settler in Hanover, moving into Hanover from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. H. B. F.]

#### Shad Fishing in Pittston.

The fish vender's call, with very fine shad at 50c. and 60c. apiece, has brought to my mind the shad we used to catch in the Susquehanna River at Pittston, when I was a boy. Then we could buy them for from a fl'penny-bit to an eleven-penny-bit—the former 6¼c., the latter 12¼c. These were Spanish silver coins, which were in general use in the United States.

Now I presume there are few, if any, living in Pittston who know anything about the old-time shad fisheries in the Susquehanna at that place. In the neighborhood, of Pittston, before the building of the dams down the river, shad were plenty. There were three points near there where the seine was drawn, Monocoonock, Wintermoot and Scoville Islands. The latter, which is just above the D. L. & W. R.R. bridge, was the one that people about the ferry were most interested in. A company of ten or more was formed, each man making his portion of the seine. Almost every farmer in those days could knit fish-nets. They raised the flax, the women spun and prepared the twine, and the men knit the meshes. The seine was from one to two hundred feet in length and about ten feet deep, prepared with long ropes above and below, called lead and cork lines, strung with lead below and wood above. At each end was what they called a brail, a long pole to keep the seine in position. Then they had quite a fleet of canoes—the commanding canoe, the seine canoe and the brail canoe. They went to the upper end of the island and struck out for the middle of the river, distributing the seine as they swung around, and when everything was ready the order was given to draw. Then the excitement commenced. It was a splendid sight to see the shad as they got in close quarters. I have seen and assisted at a great many hauls. The largest haul I recollect was 400. When they got through they loaded the shad in the canoes and run down to the ferry, where they were divided, as nearly as could be, into as many piles as there were shares. While one man would then turn his back, another, pointing to each pile, said, "Who

shall have this?" going over the whole lot, and that was the way they were divided.

Shad were so plenty and cheap that a great many families salted them down by the barrel, for about the time the shad came up the river the pork barrel was empty. There used to be quite a rivalry between the fisheries. I remember how they would shingle the river to frighten the shad, so they would not pass up above their fishing grounds. This was done by putting weights to shingles and scattering them across the river. I have my doubts about its having had any effect.

The shad in the spring and the eels in the fall were a great luxury to the people along the river in the olden time, and I hope the day is not far distant when, through the exertions of the State Fish Commission, shad will again become abundant in the upper Susquehanna River. J. G. FULL.

Waverly, Pa., May 14, 1888.—*Pittston Gazette*.

#### A Kingston Golden Wedding,

The home of D. G. Sligh, on Page Street, was the scene of a happy gathering on Saturday evening, May 18, the occasion being the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. D. G. Sligh and Miss Susan Fuller.

The party differed from most of the so-called "golden weddings" from the fact that the most interested parties were kept in entire ignorance of the affair until the guests invited by those in the secret commenced to arrive. In fact a watch had been kept on the house, that the honored ones might be found at home. After a general hand-shaking order was called and Rev. F. von Krug, of the Presbyterian Church, stated the purpose of the gathering, Capt. Alfred Darté followed in a presentation speech, saying the friends had thought best to remember them on so important an occasion, and instead of making a present to stand in a corner merely to be looked at, to give it in a more substantial and practical form. He then presented them with a purse of \$50 in gold—emblematic of the fifty years of their wedded life.

Mr. Sligh, although overcome by the surprise of the evening, pleasantly responded. Hon. H. B. Payne followed in a few words thanking the friends of Mr. Sligh for this expression of their kindness. He also spoke briefly of an acquaintance with the parties of over thirty years. The invading party were provided with refreshments, consisting of cake, ice cream, etc., which were partaken of, and the remainder of the evening was spent in conversation and singing of old time songs. The party dispersed at a late hour.

#### Luzerne in the Second Census.

There is a rare book in the State library at Harrisburg, the "Geographical Description of Pennsylvania, with the population of 1800, written by Joseph Scott and printed by Robert Cochran, Philadelphia, in 1806."

Each county is described, as also the principal towns. The census of 1800 was the second decennial census, and during the ten years following 1790 the population of Luzerne County made rapid increase. The county then extended from Nescopeck, its present southern boundary, to the New York line. In 1790 Luzerne had 4,898 free inhabitants and 11 slaves. In 1800 it had 18,831 free and 18 slaves, as also 38 saw mills, 24 grist mills, two fulling mills and one oil mill.

The 1800 population of some of the Luzerne townships was as follows:

	Free.	Slave.
Wilkes-Barre.....	832	3
Exeter.....	787	
Kingston.....	752	
Nescopeck.....	415	
Newport.....	401	
Nicholson.....	668	1
Pittstown.....	565	1
Plymouth.....	745	1
Hanover.....	612	1
Huntington.....	721	1

Wilkes-Barre is described as having about 50 houses, a court house and jail.

#### The Gnadenhuetten Savages.

The following interesting note comes to the RECORD from John W. Jordan, of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania:

PHILADELPHIA, May 26, 1888.—Of the twelve Indians who surprised the inmates of the Moravian mission house at Gnadenhuetten in November of 1755, I have been able to trace the subsequent career of but three. That of Jacobus, the leader of the war party, and the brave who carried off Susan Nitschmann appeared in my communication on page 77 of your April number.

The diaries for the years 1771 and 1772 of Langduotenink or Friedenstadt, i. e., Town of Peace, a Moravian Indian mission town on the Big Beaver, in the present county of Lawrence, contain occasional notices of an Indian living in the Monsey town, some miles distant, who was one of the attacking party on Gnadenhuetten; that he frequently attended divine service at the chapel and "often times was moved to tears." The records do not state whether he followed the mission into Ohio.

Bishop Spangenberg has left on record the following particulars of the murder of Susan Nitschmann, obtained from an Indian who participated in the treaty at Easton in the summer of 1757: "After she had been

bruised brown and black (probably an attempt was made to violate her person), and still persistently refusing to yield, the Indian struck her down with his tomahawk, exclaiming: 'So! your Bethlehem god cannot save you!'"

#### An Ante Bellum Prophecy.

EDITOR RECORD: This seems to be the old soldier's week in Wilkes-Barre, and I believe the following will be of interest. I give you below what an observant and thoughtful man wrote to his son two months before the first battle of the war had been fought. Those of us who remember the events of the times will be struck with the accurate prophecy. The letter is dated May 25, 1861, and runs thus:

Things are fast approaching a terrible outbreak in the neighborhood of Washington, Norfolk and Harper's Ferry. A rumor reached us last evening that the Union troops had made a lodgement on the Virginia shore below Washington, and that Col. Ellsworth, of the Fire Zouavee, had been shot in an engagement by the Virginians. News will come thick and fast now and will be bloody enough. Let us take it calmly. God reigns, and we have a just cause, and a great and brave people. I have little doubt that the South will at first fully hold its own. Their leaders are able and brave men and the Southern people are wrought up to frenzy. But I have no misgivings. When the Northern troops have experience and time enough has passed to bring out the right commanders, they will drive the Southern armies before them. The governor of Pennsylvania has decided to establish a camp for discipline, etc., at Easton. They are to occupy the fair ground. Two regiments are now there and several more are expected. The President has appointed Gov. Reeder a brigadier general. I have no doubt he will be heard from. He is a man of great talent and energy. The great matter now is what England and France may do. If they attempt to compel a peace between the sections it will make bad work. But we will not anticipate evil for our country."

The gentleman who made the forecast alluded to above was Rev. A. H. Hand, D. D., of Easton, for many years a trustee of Lafayette College. It was addressed to Isaac P. Hand, Esq., now of the Luzerne Bar.

#### The Redoubt is Going.

Contractor A. H. Ooon, of Kingston, began in May to demolish the redoubt hill belonging to the Hunt Estate on River Street, between Jackson Street and the L. V. R.R. Co.'s property, and crowds of teams and men were at work. The loose material is

being hauled to fill in the Wilkes-Barre approach to the new bridge. The rock will be hauled to the Kingston end of the bridge for raising the flats road to the proper grade. It was on this eminence that one of the forts stood during the wars of the last century.

#### RELIGION ON THE RAIL.

**A Methodist Church Organized on a Railroad Train—A Sunday School Established—All the Church Machinery Set in Motion.**

An event of novel interest, and likely to pass into history, transpired at Harvey's Lake on Sunday, May 13, 1888. By courtesy of the Lehigh Valley officials, the passenger and baggage cars standing on the track were utilized for a Sunday school, a class meeting and a preaching service. Shortly after the late session of the Wyoming Conference, Presiding Elder Van Bohok constituted Harvey's Lake and Kunkle a separate charge, and appointed Rev. R. P. Christopher, who served Wanamie so successfully last year, pastor of this new and important field. At Kunkle the society is well organized and have a new and inviting place of worship, but at the north corner of Harvey's Lake, although many families are securing homes, there is no church edifice of any description. Last Sabbath Mr. Christopher, who has already begun his work in earnest, organized, at 10 am., a Sabbath school in the passenger car. A superintendent, assistant superintendent, secretary, treasurer, and librarian were elected and five classes formed. Superintendent Bush has charge of the young men's bible class; Mrs. A. V. Honeywell of the young ladies' bible class; Mrs. Stukey of the infant class; the two other classes are in good hands.

At 11 am. in the car Mr. Christopher organized the first M. E. class at Harvey's Lake, with 13 members, and appointed A. V. Honeywell leader. At 2:30 pm. the passenger car, also baggage car, were packed with people who listened with delighted interest to a sermon from Mr. Christopher, who addressed them standing on the platform between the two cars. Both cars were beautifully decorated with flowers gathered from the woods bordering the lake. Those present unite in saying that the services of the day were among the most interesting and delightful they ever attended. We are informed that Mr. Albert Lewis purposes the erection of a commodious school building soon, and will fit up a room to be used as a chapel free to all religious denominations, but we question if any gathering there for public worship will ever find a more romantic place in history than the services of

last Sabbath in those Lehigh Valley passenger coaches.

Rev. Mr. Christopher applied to Rev. S. S. Kennedy for 30 bibles, which have been donated, and sent to A. V. Honeywell, Alderson, Luzerne County, ready for use by the school next Sunday.

Mr. Christopher expects, when the weather is fine, to preach on the beautiful picnic ground, as he has done twice already; but when rainy, to preach and hold the Sunday School in the cars. He seems to know how to utilize every available means, and will soon have a more commodious and stationary auditorium.

#### A Local Literary Magazine.

Samuel R. Smith, the well known artist and literateur, is about to commence the publication in this city, from his studio in Music Hall building, of a monthly journal, to be called the *Wyoming Magazine*. It is to be entirely a local production, and he has hopes of having no lack of available material, both prose and poetry, from persons of literary proclivities in Wyoming Valley, a region which is unusually prolific in people who write.

Such a magazine ought to find a ready welcome on the part of local readers, and there ought to be no trouble to find material. It will prove a pleasant medium for much interesting literary matter that is not of sufficient general interest to find a place in the great magazines, and is not sufficiently newsworthy to warrant its publication in the local papers. Mr. Smith's taste for letters runs parallel with his talent for painting, and he will find pleasure, even though he do not find great profit, in the editorial supervision of such a publication. The subscription price will be \$1.25 per year.

Mr. Smith has invited the following gentlemen to constitute an advisory board, and we understand they have consented to assist in whatever friendly way they can.

B. H. Pratt, O. Ben Johnson, E. A. Niven, D. M. Jones, Will S. Monroe, W. George Powell, James M. Coughlin, John S. McGroarty, F. C. Johnson, J. Ellsworth Kern, E. M. Marshall, Prof. W. H. Putnam, J. Andrew Boyd, T. G. Osborne, J. C. Colborn.

#### Died in Montrose.

Rasselas Searle died at his home in Montrose April 25, 1888, in his 75th year. He was the only remaining brother of the late Leonard Searle, and uncle of Mrs. Gen. McCartney of this city. He was connected with coal interests in Pittston, and had long been identified with affairs in Wyoming Valley. Constant Searle, grandfather of deceased, was one of the victims of the Wyoming massacre.

**"Daddy" Carr Dead.**

"Well Daddy, you're getting pretty well down the hill of life," said a well known citizen a few days ago, as the bent form of Edward Carr tottered by. "Yes," responded the old man, "pretty near the bottom,"—and now he has reached the goal. He died on May 14, 1888, at the poorhouse of general debility, at the age of 84 years.

Edward Carr was a native of England, and came to Wilkes-Barre from Philadelphia about fifty years ago and opened a little harness shop. A little later he leased a portion of the Laning estate where Edward's hotel now stands, and sub-let numerous small tenements to a pretty hard class of tenants. The locality became known as Carr's Patch, and was noted for its neighborhood rows. Carr continued the harness business for some time in a little shop on Main Street. Afterwards he was appointed sealer of weights and measures, an office which proved quite lucrative. By his efforts in the several directions he amassed quite a little sum of money. This he invested somewhat unfortunately, in real estate and the losses thus incurred together with the trickery of his son, John Carr, reduced him to poverty, and for the last three or four years he has been an inmate of the poor house. He was a Republican of decidedly strong opinions which he was always ready to maintain, and had quite a reputation as a political worker or rather talker. He is said to have one son living in Susquehanna county.

**Miss Ellen Uip Dead.**

On Sunday, May 27, at 11 pm., occurred the death of Miss Ellen E. Uip, at her residence, 109 South River Street. Miss Uip died of acute bronchitis and was the last of a family of six brothers and sisters. Of these Charles B. John J. and Henry, were brothers and Maria, who married the late Wm. H. Alexander, and Anna, who married the late Wm. K. Fisher, were sisters. Deceased was born in Wilkes-Barre about 70 years ago and was the daughter of Barnet and Sarah Uip. The latter's death occurred so recently as 1876, at the advanced age of 86. Her father was a Wilkes-Barre merchant doing business near where Rockafellow's bank now stands. George H. Fisher, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre and Henry B. Fisher, of Ouba, are nephews, and the Misses Alexander, of River Street, are nieces. Deceased was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

The funeral of the late Miss Ellen E. Uip took place Tuesday afternoon with interment in Hollenback Cemetery. Rev. C. E. Gregory officiated, and the pall bearers were E. J. Flick, Geo. Loveland, W. S. Parsons and S. H. Lynch. Among the friends from out of town were Murray

and Charles Alexander, of Vernon, Wyoming County, John B. Uip, of Philadelphia, all nephews of deceased, and Mrs. A. C. Wentz, of Hanover, York Co., Pa., who is a niece.

**Died at Seventy-two.**

William Tucker died at his home at Beaumont, Friday, May 26, at 12:15 pm. of typhoid pneumonia, at the age of 72 years. Mr. Tucker was born in Wilkes-Barre, and at an early age went to the Lehigh to work on the improvements to navigation of that river. About thirty years ago he made his home in Beaumont and has since resided there. He was a son of George B. Tucker, a pioneer in this region. He has two brothers, Joseph and Robert Tucker, still living, and two sisters, Mrs. Mary Miller, of Academy Street, and Mrs. Margaret L. Simmons, of Wayne County. Three brothers, now dead, took part in the late war, and another fought in the Florida war.

The funeral of Mr. Tucker took place on Sunday, at 10 am. from his late home, and interment was at Stoddartville.

**Mrs. Boyd's Father Dead.**

Mr. J. A. Simpson, father of Mrs. S. W. Boyd, died at the residence of the latter Monday morning, April 30, 1888, after a period of several week's illness from heart trouble. Mr. Simpson, several years ago was a prominent contractor, and under his supervision several large breakers were erected for the various coal companies in this valley. Deceased formerly resided in Pittston, and was a brother to Edward Simpson, of Moscow. He is survived by his wife and a son and daughter. Mr. Simpson was quiet and unassuming in disposition, and was highly respected by all who knew him. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon from the residence of his son-in-law, S. W. Boyd, 263 Scott Street.

**Death of Theodore L. Smith.**

Theodore L. Smith died very suddenly of heart disease at his home in Centremoreland, April 10, 1888, aged 71 years. His wife, whose maiden name was Ann Watson, preceded him to the better world April 30, 1881, leaving seven children. Deceased has been an earnest Christian, a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over fifty years, in which he held all offices of honor, and was steward and trustee when death came for him. Of his wealth he gave liberally to the church and as a member was ever ready to respond to any call, financial or other; he was foremost in acts of charity, and his place in the sanctuary was seldom vacant. His home was the home of the itineracy, and all found a welcome there.

L. E. A.



**WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**Beginning and Rise of What is Now an Important Feature of Our Municipal Life — Records dug Out of Council Minutes.**

## I.

The Borough of Wilkes-Barre was incorporated in 1808, thirty-seven years after the first house was erected, and thirty-four years after the town was first laid out.

Among the first things to occupy the attention of the officers of the new borough was the question of how best to protect it from fire, and the first action taken was at a special meeting of the Council, called for this purpose March 31, 1807. There were present Matthew Hollenbeck, president pro tem., Nathan Palmer, Charles Miner, Arnold Colt and Samuel Bowman. On motion of Mr. Miner it was "Resolved to appoint a committee to obtain information as to the expense of a fire engine, and report such other information on the subject of the best means to secure the borough from fire as they shall think.

Messrs. Palmer and Miner were appointed as this committee, but they never made any report, except to offer a resolution which was adopted January 11, 1808, requiring all householders to provide themselves with fire buckets.

On the 12th of April, 1808, a committee consisting of councilmen Ebenezer Bowman, Jonathan Slocum and J. P. Arndt, were appointed "to purchase the patent right of a water machine for the borough of Wilkes-Barre," which the committee reported at a meeting held April 16, 1808, that they have performed the duties of their appointment and paid eight dollars for the same.

The fire problem did not long stay solved by the "water machine" for we find that on the 16th of August, 1809, on motion of Mr. Sinton the Borough Council resolved "that a committee be appointed to endeavor to obtain opinion of inhabitants of the borough on the propriety of procuring a fire engine, to form an estimate of the expense and whether the funds of the corporation are sufficient to defray the expense and report to a future meeting of the Council." Thomas Dyer, Charles Miner and Joseph Sinton were made the committee. This committee did not make any report until June 18, 1810, when they delivered themselves as follows: "That they have considered the subject submitted to them are of opinion that it is expedient to have an engine procured."

At the same meeting Councilmen John P. Arndt and George Cahoon were appointed as committee "to bring in a bill in conformity with above report."

At the same meeting Mr. Arnot, in behalf of committee, brought in a bill entitled "An

act for appropriating a sum of money to purchase an engine," which on being read passed, to be read a second time at next meeting, which was to be held on Saturday following.

At the next meeting nothing was done with this resolution, nor was any action ever taken on it afterwards.

After these efforts the council rested from its labors for nearly three years.

On Tuesday evening, March 16, 1813, council met. Present, Jesse Fell, president, and members Arndt, Bowman, Cahoon, Drake, Robinson and Sinton.

A petition was presented by Ebenezer Bowman in behalf of himself and others, stating "that they had viewed with concern the danger to which the buildings in the borough are exposed from fire and lament that no further precautions have been taken to guard against the ravages of that destructive element and expressing a wish that the council would take such measures as may be thought necessary to procure without delay a fire engine for the use of said borough."

"The Council then went into a Committee of the Whole on the above petition. After discussing the same, the committee arose and reported, that it is expedient immediately to procure an engine."

It was also resolved to appoint a committee of two (Messrs. Arndt and Sinton) "to procure an engine as soon as the funds of the borough shall be sufficient to meet the expense."

It was also at the same time resolved "that the sum of \$700 be appropriated for that purpose."

This committee pursued the same do-nothing course of its predecessors for more than a year, when at a meeting of the new Council held May 9, 1814, it was resolved "that the committee, consisting of Mr. Arndt and Mr. Sinton, appointed by a former Council, on the subject of fire engine, be continued, and to report the best method of supplying it with water, and further that Messrs. Sinton and Scott be added to the committee."

This committee was never heard of by report, or otherwise, afterwards.

This failure, following the many like results to like efforts, was so discouraging that nothing more was done in the matter for three years next following.

In the meantime, there seemed to grow up a conviction that something more than resolutions and committees would be necessary to secure the fire engine. The proposition to assess themselves for this purpose was unpopular in the borough so long as there was a hope of making other people do it. There was the county treasury with everybody's money in it, all eyes were turned upon it, but how could it be reached?

A master hand was soon found, however, to solve the difficulty.

A petition was drawn with so much adroitness that it completely captured that august body, the Grand Inquest, and induced them to grant one-half the entire cost not only of the engine but also of the hose and other fittings when they supposed they were only contriving about one-third of cost of the engine alone.

This petition was to August session, 1817, as follows: "The petition of Garrick Malley and others members of the Town Council of the Borough of Wilkes-Barre and other inhabitants of the County of Luzerne would most respectfully represent that from the increase of wooden buildings in the Borough of Wilkes-Barre the destruction by fire has become very frequent and the danger therefrom very alarming to all property within the borough, and the publick, as well as the individual interest, requires some more effectual means of preventing with ravaging fire (sic). In the opinion of your petitioners this object can only be effected by procuring a fire engine with appropriate apparatus, the expense of which would probably amount to seven or eight hundred dollars, and inasmuch as the county and all individuals therein are interested in the preservation of the publick buildings and the records therein contained, in the opinion of your petitioners it would not be unreasonable for the county to contribute in the procuring of a fire engine and apparatus, and in some measure to aid the town council in the preservation of the publick property as well as that of the individuals. Your petitioners therefore pray your honors to lay the matter before the grand jury of the county, and if they and the court shall think proper, they may grant some assistance from the funds of the county to aid the purposes aforesaid.

This petition was laid before the grand jury, and they made report as follows: "The grand jury in taking into consideration the importance of the subject of the within petition cannot at the same time forget the present pecuniary embarrassment of the inhabitants of the county still feel a disposition to afford some aid, notwithstanding the pressure for money upon the treasury, for so laudable an object, do therefore recommend to court to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars for the object under consideration.

\$200.00.

August 6th, 1817.

CORNELIUS COURTRIGHT, Foreman."

This recommendation was approved by the court as follows: "The Court concur with the grand jury and recommend the commissioners to pay the sum of two hundred dollars in assisting to purchase a fire engine for the borough of Wilkes-Barre,

when the council make the said purchase."

On the 7th of October following the borough council directed the president, Thomas Burnside, "to address a letter to John B. Wallace, Esq., requesting him to ascertain at what price a fire engine could be procured and the terms of payment in the city of Philadelphia."

At the meeting of October 29, 1817, the president laid before the council "a communication received from John B. Wallace, Esq., relating at what price a fire engine can be procured for in the city of Philadelphia," after which it was resolved "that Messrs. Mallery and Maffet be appointed a committee to call on the county commissioners and obtain from them a draft on the treasurer of the county for the amount of the appropriation made by the Grand Jury of August term towards purchasing a fire engine. Also on the treasurer and high constable of the borough and ascertain of them what sum of money they can procure in two weeks belonging to the corporation."

At the next meeting Oct. 31, 1817, it was resolved "that the president be requested to inform Ebenezer Bowman, Esq., treasurer of the corporation to retain in hand the money that he may receive from Oliver Helme, as the same being pledged towards purchasing a fire engine."

NOTE—Oliver Helme was lessee of the ferry franchise for 1 year from 1st of April, 1817 at \$125 per year.

Nothing more was done in relation to this fire engine until March 7th, 1818, when the Council resolved that the check drawn by the County Commissioners of Luzerne County, on the Treasurer of said county, for two hundred dollars be deposited in the hands of Ebenezer Bowman, Esq., treasurer of the corporation on account of a payment for a fire engine.

Also resolved that Messrs. Beaumont and Ulp be appointed a committee to contract with John Harris or some suitable person to haul the fire engine from Philadelphia.

[To be continued.]

#### The Slocum Summit Road.

Senator Slocum's Mountain Summit road was opened to public travel May 29. The road runs through a portion of Mr. Slocum's farm, skirts the lower grade of the mountain, and reaches the summit by the easiest possible grade. The ride up the hill furnishes a fresh delight at every angle of the drive, presenting vistas most charming and picturesque. The summit is the crowning glory of the view. The scene is greatly enlarged by the 84 foot tower that Mr. Slocum has erected upon Indian Rock, and

which commands the broadest view of the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys.

This particular summit has historical interest. It was here that the Tory Butler, and his Indian allies camped on the 2d of July, 1778, preceding the day of the Wyoming massacre. The place was admirably adapted to the purpose of the cut throats, for while the main forces were cowardly hidden in the woods at the foot of the hill, the sentinels were stationed on the mountain in full view of the operations of the peaceful settlers in the valley. Thus Fort Blanchard at Pittston, Fort Jenkins at West Pittston, Fort Wintermoot in Exeter Borough and Forty Fort in Forty Fort Borough, were under constant surveillance. Senator Slocum prides himself in the fact that he lives upon the property of his ancestors since the original settlement of the valley. The tourist now may look down from the heights upon a scene not in the least suggestive of the terrible conflict which destroyed hundreds of homes. Peace and harmony, industry and thrift have given a very different aspect to the beautiful vale, and it is hoped that it may forever continue.—*Pittston Gazette.*

#### VanCampen's Descendants.

EDITOR RECORD: I take pleasure in furnishing the RECORD with an extract from a letter bearing date April 27, 1888, from a descendant of Major Moses VanCampen, giving much information concerning his descendants, which may be of interest to your readers. The writer is Miss Mary Lockhart, of Almond, N. Y., a granddaughter. She says:

"Moses Van Campen married Margaret McClure, the daughter of James McClure, a worthy citizen of Bloomsburg, Pa. The location where the town of Bloomsburg now stands was a part of the farm given her by her father. He had no sons to perpetuate his name, but had five daughters who all were women of unusual refinement of manners and of benevolence of heart. They were born in Pennsylvania (their home then was on the Fishing Creek) with the exception of the youngest daughter, who, I think, was born after their removal to the State of New York.

Mary VanCampen, the eldest daughter, my dear mother, more closely resembled her father than any of his other children. She married George Lockhart, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, a native of the north of Ireland, emigrating when about nine years of age with his father and the rest of his family to this country. Shortly after his father's

arrival he bought about 800 acres of land on the Susquehanna River, below the Wyoming Valley, but the title not proving valid he lost it all, retaining only what was secured by a second payment.

My father and mother are the parents of eight children, one dying in infancy, seven growing up to adult age, five sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Moses Van Campen Lockhart, died in October of last year. The second son, James, a merchant in Angelica, died in 1868. The third son, John, served under Gen. Sherman in the war of the Rebellion. He died in 1870, his death doubtless hastened by hardships endured while in the army. The fourth son, Alfred, formerly a merchant of Angelica, is now in the Patent Office in Washington. He entered during the administration of President Arthur. The fifth son, Joseph, lives on the farm my father bought shortly after his marriage and where he and my mother lived until their decease. My father died in 1854. My mother died in 1864. The sixth child was Elizabeth. She was married to Henry W. Orandall, a merchant of Almond. She died in 1874. Of seven children but three survive, two brothers and myself. Anna, the second daughter of Moses Van Campen married Alvir Burr from Connecticut, for many years one of the most prominent lawyers of Allegheny Co., N. Y. They had two children, a son, Moses, now living in Angelica. After the removal of my grandfather to Dansville, Mr. Burr went to live in his very pleasant home after he retired from his profession. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burr, Harriet, married John Olmstead, a banker, who lives at Yonkers on the Hudson. She died in 1885. The third daughter, Pricilla, married Mr. Samuel Mulholland, a farmer, who lived on the shore of the Canisteo River. At their decease they left two daughters, Sarah, the eldest, now Mrs. Frederick W. Landers, who resides in Decorah, Iowa, the other daughter Mary, now Mrs. Frank Lewis, living in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The fourth daughter of Moses Van Campen was Elizabeth. She married the Rev. Robert Hubbard, a Presbyterian clergyman, a native of Sherbourne Mass., a graduate of Williams College, and one of the most exemplary of men. They left one son, now the Rev. J. N. Hubbard, of Tracy, California. He is a graduate of Yale College, author of the Life of Moses Van Campen, and of the Life of Red Jacket.

The fifth daughter, Lavinia, married Samuel Southworth, M. D., a prominent physician of Allegheny County. She died at the early age of 32 years, leaving two little daughters, one of whom died in girlhood. The other, Margarete, married a Mr. Mills,

of Mount Morris, Livingston Co., N. Y. She died in September of last year.

You will see by this sketch that the descendants of Moses Van Campen are fast passing away. His children, all but the youngest daughter, Mrs. Southworth, lived to the age of three score years and ten. Of the grand children more than the half are gone. Seven are still living. Eight have died within the past few years." H.

#### A Western Centennial.

Cincinnati is going to have a centennial exposition beginning July 4 and continuing to October 27, celebrating the settlement of the Ohio Valley, the Northwestern Territory, the State of Ohio and the city of Cincinnati. The Record acknowledges courtesies from the Cincinnati Press Club, which will open headquarters on June 9. Each State has a number of representatives on the Board of Honorary Commissioners, of whom Gov. Beaver is one and our townsman, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, is another.

The territory bounded by the Great Lakes, the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, was ceded to the United States by New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Virginia, between the years 1780 and 1787; the most important cession being by Virginia, March 1, 1784.

Thus was created the great public domain known as the Northwestern Territory, comprising the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, a portion of Minnesota and a small part of Pennsylvania.

This territory was organized under the famous ordinance of 1787—a sort of constitution, a great organic law, passed by Congress July 13 of that year—and on the 27th of October following the Ohio Company completed the purchase of about a million and a half acres of land north of the Ohio and near the Muskingum River. April 7, 1788, the first white settlers, forty-eight in number, landed on the site of the present city of Marietta, Ohio. Civil government was established there for the whole Northwestern Territory, and in July, 1788, the Territorial Governor, Arthur St. Clair, assumed the duties of office.

The second English settlement was made at Columbia, now a part of Cincinnati, in October, 1788, though the site of the city had been surveyed and platted as early as July of that year.

These events of National importance—the establishment of States, the founding of cities, the transportation of Anglo-Saxon civilization to the Ohio valley and the great Northwest—will be appropriately celebrated on the hundredth anniversary of their occurrence.

The event is endorsed by the Legislature of Ohio, the Honorary Commissioners being the appointments of the Governor. The citizens of Cincinnati have contributed as a guarantee fund over one million dollars.

The city has granted the use of Washington Park, immediately opposite the permanent Exposition Buildings, and there is now erected an elegant structure, cruciform in shape, 600 by 110 feet one way and 400 by 110 feet in its transverse section, two stories in height.

The permanent buildings consist of the great Music Hall, capable of holding eight thousand people, Dexter Hall, Art Halls' Horticultural and other halls, and at the centennial will be devoted entirely to entertainments, art, flowers and still life.

Adjoining the permanent buildings is Machinery Hall, a vast building, thirteen hundred feet in length by one hundred and fifty-four feet in width. This great buildings have under roof the largest connected covered area ever used for any Exposition held on the Western Continent, and being in the center of Cincinnati, within ten minutes walk of all the hotels, depots and public resorts, with numerous street and cable cars near its doors, there will be no annoying delays and crushes, and visitors can come and go with ease and celerity.

#### History of West Branch Valley.

The first instalment of the "History of the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna" is issued from the press of the *Gazette and Bulletin*, Williamsport, and comprises 40 pages of most interesting matter. Much of it is entirely new, though the work is a reprint of Col. J. F. Meginness' history which he published 32 years ago, and which has long been out of print. The author is quite well known as "John of Lancaster," over which nom de plume he has written much interesting local history. The work will cover the first settlement, privations endured by pioneers, Indian wars, predatory incursions, abduction and massacres, together with copies of curious old documents, etc. Considerable space is given to early Indian history and all the important deeds from the aborigines are quoted in full, for the purpose of showing how the lands were acquired, and the amounts paid for them. Our Indian history is so vague that the concise account here given is most acceptable to the general reader. The history will be issued in 12 parts, \$3 for the set and only 800 copies will be printed. As the early history of the West Branch is closely interwoven with that of the North Branch, the admirable volume of Col. Meginness should find not a few purchasers here to the northward.

## SUGAR LOAF VALLEY.

Some Interesting History of that Portion of Luzerne County.—Not Entirely in Harmony with the Historians.—Indian Atrocities in 1780.

[The following from the pen of the late John C. Stokes appeared some 20 years ago in the *Hazleton Sentinel*, of which Mr. Stokes was the founder and at that time the editor.]

Local tradition furnishes us with many interesting incidents and reminiscences of early times in Sugar Loaf Valley, that are worthy of preservation, being illustrative of the hardships encountered and privations endured by the pioneers of that beautiful and fertile valley; and there are old persons still living there who have seen and conversed with some of the "seven months men" who escaped the massacre of 1780, near the spot where Conyngham now stands. A brief synopsis of a few of the accounts that have come down to us from a past generation may not, though given disconnectedly, be devoid of interest.

Many of our readers are familiar with the short accounts of the Sugar Loaf massacre in Mr. Miner's History and Mr. Pearce's Annals. Brief as these accounts are, however, they differ very materially from the true version of the affair, if we may credit the concurrent testimony of a score of aged men and women now living, who have heard the facts in the case narrated by men who belonged to the party that the Indians attacked, and by those who were afterwards sent to inter the dead bodies of the victims. Mr. Miner's account was from the lips of Abigail Dodson, who was taken prisoner with the Gilbert family, from Mahoning, below Manch Chunk, and conducted over the great "war path" or Indian trail that crossed the Quakake, and passed over the mountain near the present sites of Treckow and Ashburton, entering the valley by the little ravine that extends from the toll gate toward the Little Neechopek. The Gilbert family were captured in April, 1780, the year after Sullivan's expedition; and as the Sugar Loaf tragedy was enacted in the autumn of the same year, while Abigail was still in the hands of the savages, she received her account from the prisoners brought to Canada, who, no doubt, supposed that the entire party were killed or captured as since stated in the published account; but there is undoubted evidence that such was not the case. A great uncle of the Engle brothers who now lived in Hazleton and the valley, escaped over the Neechopek mountain, and across the Susquehanna to Fort Jenkins, losing one shoe in his flight, and Abraham Klader, a brother of the officer in command, concealed himself in the Little Neechopek Creek, clinging to a tree that had fallen across the stream, and keeping only his

face above water until the enemy disappeared, when he emerged from his concealment and succeeded in reaching his home. Frederick Shickler also escaped on the Buck mountain, avoiding the Indian trail and finally reaching the white settlement in the Lehigh valley in safety.

We have conversed with an old gentleman, now eighty-four years of age, who fifty or sixty years ago heard Shickler, then an old man, relate his adventures. After reaching the top of Buck Mountain he left the path to his right and managed to keep out of sight of the Indians, whose yells he could distinctly hear as they followed the path in pursuit of him. A few others are known to have escaped, but nothing reliable can now be gathered respecting their names or the particulars of their escape.

Both Miner and Pearce say that the company was commanded by Capt. Myers, while Chapman, page 183, says that Wm. Moyer was in command; but the oldest living descendants of the early settlers, with a number of whom we have conversed, agree in asserting that the company was under the command of Capt. Klader, who after performing deeds of prodigy and valor that caused his name afterwards to inspire feelings akin to veneration, was finally killed and scalped and subsequently buried, as were also others of the party on what is now the farm of Samuel Wagner, about a half mile from Conyngham. We visited Wagner's farm a few days since, in company with Mr. S. D. Engle, of this borough, and were conducted by Anthony Fisher, a man whose looks are whitened by the frosts of ninety winters, to the spot where the brave Klader rests, but no trace of the grave is now to be seen. The oak tree under whose branches he lay, and upon which were the initials of his name, D. K., was sacrilegiously cut down fifteen years ago, and even the stump is decayed and gone. Mr. Fisher, many years ago, was intimately acquainted with John Wertz, who had belonged to the party that buried the slain and marked their leader's grave by cutting the initials spoken of above. As the old man leaned upon his staff and surveyed the spot, he gave expression to feelings of deep regret that the tree was not permitted to stand as a memorial of the heroic deeds of those by-gone days. Well might they have exclaimed, who reveled the name of the hero of Sugarloaf Valley,

"Woodman spare that tree!  
Touch not a single bough!"

Klader sold his life as dearly as possible. Four Indians, or, according to some accounts, seven, were dispatched by his own hands before he finally succumbed to numbers. The Indians in retaliation, inflicted upon him every torture that savage cruelty

could devise. The details of their barbarities are too shocking to relate. We were shown, by Mr. Fisher, a flint lock and a gun barrel, both much eaten by rust, that were plowed up on Klader's grave a few years ago. These relics are in the possession of Mr. Samuel Wagner.

[Copied from the Hasleton Sentinel, Sept. 1866. Jno. C. Stokes, Ed.]

In a former number we gave some account of the massacre of 1780, in Sugar-loaf Valley—John Balliet, of Whitehall, Lehigh (then Northampton) County, expected to accompany the party who were sent to bury the victims of that massacre, but sickness in his family compelled him to remain at home. Upon the return of the party, however, Balliet was so favorably impressed with their glowing descriptions of the valley that he resolved to settle there, which determination he carried into effect in the spring of 1784, locating on what is now known as the Beisel farm, about one mile from Drums. The Indian paths crossing mountains and streams, afforded no passage for wagons, and his "moving" consisted only of what he was able to carry on horseback. His children were placed in two bee hives, typical, perhaps of that industry which transformed the wilderness into a milking garden, and these were tied together and thrown across the back of a horse. In descending the Broad Mountain on their journey, the cord uniting the hives broke, and in the language of the old nursery song, "Down came cradle and baby and all." After a short gymnastic exercise in the feat of turning summersaults down the side of the mountain, the children were again comfortably ensconced in their hives, and the party, like Joe, the cunning sweeper in the "Bleak House" moved on. Upon reaching their destination, Balliet and his family improvised a rude habitation by placing poles around and against a tree over which some sort of covering was thrown to shelter them until a house could be erected. Their first house, which was built of logs, was in a year or two after destroyed by fire with all their household effects except one bed.

Mr. Balliet was soon followed by other settlers, among the earliest of whom were Reab, Wenner, Shiber Delp, Hill, Bachelor, Spade and others. Few, perhaps, who now "beneath their own vine and fig tree" enjoy all the luxuries of an advanced civilization, reaping the fruits of their ancestors' toil, have an adequate conception of the hardships and privations endured by these hardy pioneers. They coveted none of the superfluities or expansive follies of the present day, but were humbly thankful for their "daily bread" and for the rough couches upon which they were wont to repose their

weary limbs. They could say in the words of Whittier:

"Let rapid idlers loll in silk  
Around the costly board,  
Give us the bowl of samp and milk  
By homespun beauty poured."

These early settlers were obliged to carry their grain on horseback to Sultz' Mill, on Lizard Creek, one mile below the present town of Lehighton, wait there until it was ground, which was generally done during the night, and return with their "grist" the following day. Stephen Balliet, when only ten or eleven years of age, made frequent trips alone to this mill crossing the Buck and Broad Mountains and he and his horse partaking of one piece of bread each on the journey. After Bittenhouse's mill, about a mile below Berwick, was built, the settlers carried their grain there in preference to going to Lizard Creek, until Philip Bittenbender built a mill near Neecopect, (now Evan's), when they found it still more convenient to carry their grain to him.

It was not, we are assured, until 1788 that Samuel Woodring built his mill at or near the present site of Straw's mill, though Mr. Pierce fixes the date at 1788. This mill had but one run of stone and was built of logs, with a log dwelling house attached to it.

#### Captain Gilman Converse.

I am not aware of any contributor to the pages of the *Historical Record* having given a line commemorative of this New England man, so well known for years by the citizens of Wilkes-Barre. And I would be very glad, essaying a few words regarding him, if my recollections were more full than they are.

Before I became acquainted with Capt. Converse, (living in a different part of the Commonwealth,) he was first officer on a steamer running between the two commercial ports of Luzerne and Wyoming Counties. Excepting the staple of maple sugar, it was never clearly apparent what demand of internal trade required the establishment of a line of steamers between these two seaports on the Susquehanna. Nor do I know how long the venture triumphed over the intricacies of a channel demanding the exercise of the highest nautical skill. Nor what length of hours or days elapsed in stemming the rifts on the upward voyage. But one distinctive feature has survived the downfall of the hazardous undertaking. The fame of the commander. Certainly no more genial, alert and bold navigator ever trod the quarterdeck of a vessel. He was the impersonation of naval superiority. He was alive with enthusiasm. His face beamed with perpetual gaiety. The manner of one bred and nurtured in the courts of royalty, may well be supposed

fitted for navigating a craft laden with the elite of the land. Chesterfield acquired some fame for elegance of manner, on shore; but here was an individual whose area of courtly demeanor embraced both land and sea. Can the passengers of that day who committed life and possessions to this pilot of perilous currents, forget the welcome of that face, beaming an aurora borealis greeting from the gunwale, on their approach to the gangway? Or at the end of the fitful voyage, the gallantry that guided them along the plank from deck to shore by this prince of sailors?

It was the same energetic man, the quadrant and compass laid aside, who inaugurated the ice traffic of Wilkes-Barre. It was a labor of love, on which he entered with the zeal of Hannibal on the Alps. He excavated his basin and put up the tenement. When the heated season came his horse and wagon were ready. Before the sun beamed on the mountain barrier, he was threading the streets. His cheerful hail at every door, in a peculiar piercing treble, fell on the drowsy slumberer's ear: "*Here's your cooler!*" was a note of glad tidings for the sultry day. A promise of cool draughts for the saints; of refreshing morning cocktails for the sinners.

The active life of Capt. Converse was an illustration of happiness in labor. It was the delight of his existence. He had no off days. Whether as captain of his boat; the cultivator of his truck farm on the Kingston flats; the ice king of the county seat, or sitting to receive tickets of admission at Oha-hoon Hall, all was accomplished with inviolable cheer. O. E. WRIGHT.

Doylestown, May 28, 1888.

#### Another Tippecanoe Campaigner.

CARBONDALE, June 28.—EDITOR RECORD: I noticed the statement of my old friend, W. S. Wells, that he voted for Harrison in 1840. I was attending school in Wilkes-Barre at the time, and although too young to vote did a good deal of shouting for old Tippecanoe. The cabin stood near the south corner of East Market Street and the Square, adjoining the hotel then kept by Archippus Parrish. I heard many rousing speeches in the famous building, among the number, one by John W. Baer, the "Buckeye blacksmith." The logs to erect the cabin came from all parts of the county. I recollect particularly the procession which came down from Skinners Eddy, under the marshaling of Major John Sturdevant with a monster log, drawn by a dozen yoke of oxen. Those were times which stirred party enthusiasm to its very depths, and shook the country from center to circumference. Their like will never be witnessed again.

O. E. LATHROP.

#### A MILITARY EXECUTION.

Reminiscence of the Swinging off of the Murderer of Maj. Arnold C. Lewis, an old Wilkes-Barre Boy, Mexican Veteran and Son of the Late Sharp D. Lewis.

[Washington Tribune, May 17.]

It was during the early winter of 1861, while our brigade, consisting of the 10th Me., 5th Conn., 48th Pa. and 28th N. Y., of Gen. Banks' Division, was encamped on the side of the Blue Ridge Mountains, overlooking the beautiful country surrounding Frederick City. We were in our first winter quarters, little thinking that we would soon be called to leave them, by our march in the snow to Hancock, Md.

Late in the fall Maj. Lewis, of the 48th Pa., had been brutally shot by one of his own regiment—Private John Lanahan—when on the march near Darnestown, Md. Lanahan had been put under arrest for intoxication, and was in charge of the provost guard. He became so savage that they resorted to the harsh measure of tying him to the rear of a wagon. This maddened the drunken man so much that he seized a loaded gun from the wagon, and pointing deliberately at the major, who was riding near, discharged its contents into his breast, killing him almost instantly.

He was tried by court martial, and condemned to be hanged on Dec. 28, 1861. The place chosen for the execution was the center of the parade ground of our brigade, three miles west of Frederick, toward the mountains. The day was cold and stormy; snow was fast covering the ground as the regiments were marched out and formed a hollow square around the scaffold which had been erected for the execution.

Soon the 3d Wis.—who were the provost-guard of Frederick city—marched into the square, led by their band playing the dead march, guarding a close carriage containing the condemned man. His own regiment—the 48th Pa.—occupied a position nearest the scaffold, on the north. He seemed very calm and self-possessed, and ascended the steps at a signal from the officer in charge promptly and with a firm step, followed by a priest.

The sentence of the court martial was read in a voice heard by nearly every man in the entire brigade: "And the said court martial does sentence the said John Lanahan, private of Co. I, 48th Pa., to be hanged by the neck till he is dead."

After the reading the scaffold was vacated by all except the condemned man and the priest. They were left alone for a short time, during which the priest presented a small crucifix to his lips, which he kissed. The executioner—who was closely masked,

so his comrades would not know the hand that swung him into eternity—arranged the cap over his eyes, pinioned the hands and feet, and then descended, leaving the murderer standing alone on the trap. At a given signal this fell, and in a few moments all was over. I well remember the thrill of horror that passed over us all at the sight, and hard, strong men turned away from it with a shudder; and how gladly we would have escaped the scene had we been allowed.

But the lesson of subordination to law and discipline had to be learned, and so our entire brigade was compelled to witness the sad event.

C. W. BOYCK.

Co. D, 28th N. Y., Buffalo, N. Y.

#### Silken Campaign Relics.

George O. Lewis is in possession of some old campaign badges that are historical in their interest. They were found among the possessions of his grandfather, Judge Cahoon. One is of blue silk, bearing in bold letters the words "Harrison, Tyler, and Reform, and a floating flag with the date 1840. Another badge bears the words "Olay and Tariff—The Democratic Whig—May, 1844," and an exquisitely engraved likeness of Olay, the impression on the pale blue silk looking like a vignette on a bank note. The work is equal to the best printing done to-day. The badge bears half a dozen lines of campaign poetry. A third badge bears the inscription: "Young Men's Whig Convention, Baltimore, May, 1844," and a lively looking coon with thumb on nose, saying, "No you don't." Beneath are the lines:

Get out the way, you're unlucky,  
Clear the track for old Kentucky.

#### Named for King Paxinosa.

The RECORD acknowledges receipt of invitation to the opening of the Paxinosa Inn at Easton, on the evening of July 8. This is a new mountain hostelry, of a character similar to that of Glen Summit. It commands a view which is said to rival that of Wyoming Valley. The environs of Paxinosa Inn teem with the romance of Indian legend and Colonial history. In full view from the house is the memorable spot where, in 1757, was held for many days a great Council, at which were present three hundred representative warriors of the Six Nations, including the great Teedyuscung, Chief of the Lenapes, and Paxinosa, King of the Shawanees (after whom the Inn is named); the Governors of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and others were also in attendance, and the most important treaty since that of William Penn was consummated. Near by were camping grounds of the Revolution.

#### Capt. Gilman Converse.

EDITOR RECORD: O. E. Wright's article in your historical column [p. 126] concerning Capt. Converse as he appeared when proudly treading the quarterdeck of his noble steamer, the Wyoming of Tunkhannock, as she ploughed her way through the stiff currents of the Susquehanna betwixt Wilkes-Barre and Tunkhannock, reminds me that it was my good fortune to be present at the latter place when the hopeful captain first laid his plans before the merchants and other capitalists of that town. There were present, as I remember now, Sherman D. Phelps, at that time a merchant doing business there; Mr. Bartis, formerly of Wilkes-Barre; Henry Stark and others not known to me. When the captain unfolded his plans before the meeting with glowing statistics, showing how money was to be made by carrying coal up stream and returning well laden with the rich agricultural products of Wyoming and Bradford Counties, to say nothing about the passengers to be carried both ways, they all saw that fortunes were to be made "just as easy as falling off a log," and subscribed liberally towards the capital required to start the enterprise. The result was, that a company was organized and the captain at once set about building a boat after the model exhibited by him at this initial meeting.

But alas for the genial and jovial old ice king! He was doomed to see the high water in the spring of 1865 sweep away his garnered store of the winter before, and his fortune to melt into thin water, never again to be restored to him. He was afterwards sent to the poor farm down the river, where he died, and his remains now fill a pauper's grave, if they were not sent to the dissecting tables of some Philadelphia medical school.

The meeting spoken of was in the spring of the year, about 1847 or '8, I think, and I well remember as it was not convenient to remain at Wyoming's capital waiting for the completion of the captain's boat, I took passage on one of the numerous lumber rafts that were on their way to tide at the time. The pilot was a jolly waterman from up the river, something of a joker withal, seemingly taking delight in "playing tricks on travelers" and thinking perhaps that I was a green horn in river navigation, undertook to gay me by describing the perilous task before us of guiding the raft safely through the dangerous obstruction to be met with at Butter-milk Falls. But as I happened to know all about the situation, he did not frighten me much. Then he next commenced telling me about the magnitude of the lumbering business up on the Canisteo—said that he owned



a mill that would cut, I don't remember how many hundred thousand feet of lumber in a day, by using a gang of six foot circular saws; the mode of operating them was by having a train of logs fastened end to end, run through about as fast as a man could walk, and that it required the labor of two men with carts to haul away the sawdust, and that they had all they could do to keep the pit clear. But as the gentleman from York State had attempted to sell me on the Buttermilk Falls racket, I had some doubts as to the truth of his big lumber story in the pine woods up on the Canisteo. However, he brought me and his raft through and landed us safely at Forty Fort eddy in the dusk of the evening, where he tied up in company with perhaps a hundred other similar craft from the different streams emptying into the Susquehanna higher up the river. It was a pleasant and an exciting experience floating down the Susquehanna at that day, with rafts in front of you, rafts astern of you, and sometimes to the right and left, when the water and nature of the channel would admit. Good humor generally prevailed among the raftmen, and joking and jibing of the rival crews made things lively and enjoyable.

W. J.

#### An Old House Gone.

Somewhere about sixty years ago Isaac A. Chapman, the first historian of Wyoming, erected on River Street below Union, what was regarded at that time an elegant residence with breadth of building lot that would be considered extravagant at the present time. Eleazer Oarey, Esq., subsequently married the widow of Mr. Chapman and lived and died there. In course of time Caleb E. Wright, Esq., became the purchaser and occupied the old house for many years, but a portion of the lot had been sold. Benjamin F. Dorrance, Esq., next became the owner and occupant, and made his home there for several years until he removed to the Kingston farm. The old place then became a cheap boarding house until the Jonas Long estate purchased one-half of the remaining ground about a year ago for the purpose of building a residence thereon. The old landmark is now torn down and its fragments scattered promiscuously around waiting to be carted off for the purpose of doing duty in some cheaper dwelling in another part of the city. It is understood that the Longs will erect a splendid residence on its ruins in keeping with the best of River Street's many elegant residences, than which no finer ones can be found in any of our interior cities.

#### THE WESTMINSTER CHURCH.

Retrospect of Its 45 Years' History—Its Small Beginning and Its Growth Into a Flourishing Church.

The interesting installation services of the Presbyterian Church were performed at the new Westminster Church in South Wilkes-Barre Tuesday evening, June 26, the pastor being Rev. R. B. Webster.

An organ prelude by George S. Rippard began the services, a hymn, "Enthroned on High," following. Then came the reading of the Scriptures by Rev. G. H. Ingram, of Nanticoke. An anthem, "I Sing Aloud," was sung by the choir and a prayer was delivered by Rev. C. R. Gregory. An excellent sermon followed by Rev. N. F. Stahl, from the text 1 Cor. 2:12. The moderator, Rev. C. R. Gregory, propounded the constitutional questions. The prayer of installation was delivered by Rev. H. H. Welles, and the charge to the pastor by Rev. W. S. C. Webster, of Islip, Long Island, brother of the pastor. An impressive charge to the people by Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D., followed. The choir then sang the hymn "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken," after which the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. R. B. Webster, the pastor, who then advanced to the front of the altar and was greeted by the congregation who passed before him, each extending the right hand of fellowship. A very fair audience was present, the pastor's mother and sister, from Mauch Chunk, being among the number.

In connection with the installation of the pastor a short history of the Sabbath school from which the Westminster Church grew will be of interest.

In the summer of 1843 Mrs. Wm. Hibler gathered about a dozen children together in a room next Mr. Hibler's store, in South Wilkes-Barre, and a Sabbath school was organized with Mr. Samuel McCarragher as superintendent. The room soon became too small and a place was fitted up in the large store house. Here the school was held for about two years, but only in the summer, as the room could not be heated. The average allowance at that time was about 80. The teachers were from Mrs. Hibler's family with some from up town.

About this time Mr. Wetmore, who was connected with the rolling mill, a new but short lived industry, offered the use of a building belonging to the rolling mill. The offer was accepted. While the rolling mill was in operation the school numbered about 125. From here the school removed to the old brick school house on Oregon Street and remained there till 1868, when it took possession of the chapel on Hanover Street, which had been built for it through the

liberality of the First Presbyterian Church, of which it was a mission. This building was twice enlarged to meet the demands of the school, which continued to grow under the superintendency of Mr. Douglass Smith, who has been connected with it for 28 years and most of the time as superintendent. In 1882 a lot was bought at the corner of Hanover and St. Clement Streets and a brick chapel built on the upper part of the lot facing St. Clement Street. This was entered at Christmas, 1882, and is well filled with a flourishing Sabbath school.

When Rev. John Dorrance, D. D., was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church he used to preach in the brick school house on Oregon Street, Sabbath afternoons.

In the summer of 1868 Rev. W. S. O. Webster, a student in Princeton Theological Seminary, now pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Islip, Long Island, spent his vacation in missionary work under the direction of the First Presbyterian Church.

In 1870 Rev. J. Beatty Howell was employed by the session of this church as a missionary and preached at South Wilkes-Barre and in the Grant Street Chapel. In June, 1878, he resigned and soon after went as a missionary to Brazil, where he now labors.

On the first day of June, 1878, Richard B. Webster, who had just graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary, took charge of the South Wilkes-Barre and Grant Street Chapels, and continued in this position till July, 1885, where he gave all his time to South Wilkes-Barre, and this chapel has been self-supporting since that time, and has had preaching Sabbath mornings and evenings.

This spring the congregation requested Presbytery to organize them as a church. The request was granted and the Westminster Church was organized June 8th with 69 members as already reported in the RECORD.

#### Log Cabin Calico of 1840.

Harry French, son of S. L. French, of Plymouth, shows the RECORD an interesting relic of the presidential campaign of 1840. It is a piece of blue print calico, having a portrait of William Henry Harrison, underneath which is the legend "Harrison and Reform." Above is a rural scene, prominent in which is the log cabin, at whose door is a barrel of "Hard Cider" and among the stumps near by some cattle are grazing. The calico is also decorated with leaves and flowers. It is a relic which has been kept in the family for nearly 50 years, Harry's grandfather having been an ardent Whig.

#### They Voted for Harrison.

The RECORD is pleased to note the names of all of such old residents as voted the Harrison ticket in 1840. Judge Wells informs us that besides himself who did so he knows of Joseph Everett, W. W. Loomis and D. G. Dreisbach, the latter now living in Scranton. Hon. L. D. Shoemaker came of age in November of that year, but does not remember whether he got in his vote or not. Everyone of these is true to his colors after nearly half a century, and will vote for William Henry Harrison's grandson in November next.

#### Catching Shad in 1798.

EDITOR RECORD: In the historical column (*Historical Record* vol. 2, p. 117,) you give Mr. J. G. Fell's interesting description of shad-fishing at Pittston in olden times.

The diary of Jason Torrey, one of the early settlers in Wayne County, relates his experience at shad fishing in the Susquehanna, a few miles below Pittston, in 1798.

He was then residing in what is now Mount Pleasant, in Wayne County, some 27 miles north of Salem Corners, (now Hamlington). His diary states that on the 24th of April he started to Wyoming to procure seed oats and get some smithwork done. He arrived at Jackson's tavern, (where the village of Wyoming now is) in the afternoon of the next day, and found that a large fishing party had that day commenced shad fishing and had caught about 500. Mr. Bailey, the blacksmith, was engaged as one of the fishing party and in order to get his smithwork done, Mr. Torrey agreed to take his place in the fishing party the next day, for which he was to receive half of Mr. Bailey's share of the catch. They were very successful and caught 1,600 that day, of which Mr. Torrey received 42 for his share. He purchased eight more, removed the inwards, applied two quarts of salt, put his 50 shad in a bag, and just before dark started for his home, 60 miles distant, stopping at Allsworth's, (where Dunmore now is), for a little sleep, and starting again two hours before day he reached home the next night about midnight, and on having his fish dressed and packed with salt had more than half a barrelful of them.

The impurities discharged from the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valley coal mines into the river are so great that it is not probable that great quantities of shad would now ascend as far as Pittston if all the dams were removed. J. TOMANX.

Honesdale, Pa.

**CAPT. STRAW'S FATHER DEAD.**

One of the Oldest Citizens of Butler Valley Passes Peacefully Away.

Andrew Straw, one of the oldest and best known residents of the Hazleton end of Luzerne County, died on Wednesday, June 27, at his residence in Butler Valley after an illness of nearly a year, of general debility and disease incident to old age. The *Sentinel* says:

Mr. Straw was born in Lebanon County, this State, in 1811, being at the time of his death aged 77 years. He came to Hazleton in 1838 and was employed by the Hazleton Coal Co. as a carpenter for a number of years. Afterwards he was employed by A. Pardee & Co. in the same capacity until 1850. During this time he assisted in many important enterprises in connection with the development of Hazleton and the Middle Coal Field. He helped build the railroad from Hazleton to Penn Haven, also the old coal pockets at the latter place and many of the breakers throughout the Lehigh region. In the year 1850 he moved on a farm in Butler Valley, at Drums, and resided there until his death. About the year 1858 he constructed the first buildings of G. B. Markle & Co. at Jeddo, including the old Jeddo and Pink Ash breakers, the hotel, store and many of the dwelling houses. During his residence in Butler Valley he followed the occupation of a farmer. He was one of the oldest members of the Methodist church in this region and his home used to be called the home of the Methodist preachers when they preached in circuit.

In 1837 he was married in Lebanon to Miss Christiana Bogert. She died in 1871. Several years later he married his second wife, Miss Levina Drum, daughter of Philip Drum, of Butler Valley. He was the father of eight children—Cyrus, ex-county commissioner, now of Wilkes-Barre; H. D., of Philadelphia; A. W., of Lebanon; W. A., of Butler; John I., of Chicago; Edward F., of Pittsburg, and David, deceased. All these were the fruits of his first marriage. By his second marriage he had one child, Anna M.

Mr. Straw was always a man of sterling worth and integrity, and of the noblest Christian character. He performed all his duties quietly and unassumingly, yet with a thoroughness and ability that won for him the utmost confidence of his employers. His domestic life was of the most happy kind and his family were devoted to him. His death will be sincerely mourned by his large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this region.

**Death of E. B. Stark.**

Edward B. Stark, eldest son of Mrs. J. B. Stark, died suddenly Saturday, June 2, while out walking with his attendant on River Street. He was seized with a coughing spell, he being a victim of pulmonary consumption, and blood spouted from his mouth. His attendant endeavored to get him home as quickly as possible, but finding that he was growing very weak he attempted to reach Mr. Benjamin Reynold's residence, and while entering the vestibule Mr. Stark fell and died in a few minutes.

Deceased was born October 12, 1851, at Carbondale. When five years old he came with his parents to Wilkes-Barre. At the age of 18 he secured a position in the Second National Bank and held it until he was 21 when he was attacked with a hemorrhage and was forced to go to Colorado for his health. On returning he became identified with the Wyoming Valley Hotel with his father, and for nine years was a vital factor in its great success. About five years ago his health became greatly impaired. His eyes became affected and finally he lost his sight. He sought medical aid in Philadelphia, and was told there by leading physicians that he had a tumor on the brain which was pressing upon the optic nerve.

During his illness he joined the Roman Catholic Church, being confirmed three years ago by Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia.

Of late he lived in Philadelphia during the winter, but spent the summer with his mother in this city. Those who knew him during his active life regarded him as one of the best-hearted men in this part of the country. His friends entertained great sympathy for him during his affliction, and always spoke to him cheerfully as he passed along the streets with his attendant, and, although totally blind, his memory was most acute, and he knew voices at once that he only heard at long intervals. Before his illness he was a fine-looking man, of positive convictions and of considerable executive ability.

His mother survives him, as does a brother, J. Byron Stark, and a sister, Mrs. E. Warren Sturdevant.

**A Victim of Paralysis.**

Died, in Shickshinny, May 18, from the effects of a paralytic stroke sustained the previous day, G. G. Turner, aged 74 years. Mr. Turner was born in Huntington Township in 1814, and had lived throughout his life in Luzerne County. His wife died some years since, but four sons and two daughters survive him, one of his sons, M. E. Turner, being a resident of Wilkes-Barre. The funeral took place at Bloomingdale church, in Union Township, May 18 at 11 am.

**Death of Mrs. Deitrick.**

Wednesday, June 20, occurred the death, at her residence, 51 Northampton Street, of Mrs. Catherine Deitrick, at the age of 88 years and 5 months. Her death followed an illness of about a week, though she has been suffering from the effects of a fall received two weeks ago.

Mrs. Deitrick has been a resident of this valley since 1816, her parents, George and Mary Lazarus, having removed here that year from Cherry Valley, Monroe Co., and settled on the Lazarus farm at Buttonwood. Frederick Deitrick, the husband of deceased, died in 1855, while landlord of the American House, now known as the Bristol. Since 1857 the deceased has resided at her late home, 51 Northampton Street.

Two sisters survive Mrs. Deitrick, they being Mrs. Sarah Blanchard, of Port Blanchard, and Mrs. A. Blodgett, of Buttonwood. Her children yet living are Miller Deitrick, Mrs. Sarah Stoddart and Miss Kate Deitrick. Her grand children living are Wm. Stoddart, Harry Stoddart, Mrs. Dr. Linker, Miss Maggie Stoddart, Leonard Stoddart, Orlando and Miller C. Deitrick, Mrs. Dr. Pier and Mrs. Ruth Schlager, of Pleasant Valley; Fred Deitrick, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Wm. L. Speece, Miss Sallie and Ernest Deitrick, of this city.

**A Pioneer's Son Dead.**

[Contributed.]

The late Raseelas Searle, whose decease has been noticed in the papers was the last son of Rogers Searle, who was in the battle of July 8, 1778, and escaped. The sons of Rogers Searle were the late John Searle, of Plains; Leonard Searle, of Montrose; and Daniel Searle, of Pittston. Raseelas was the uncle of Mrs. Edwin Williams, of Ohio; Mrs. Clara Dean, of Waverly; Mrs. Elizabeth Vorse, of Iowa, Mrs. J. K. Peck, of Hanover; Mrs. James D. Green, of Wyoming; and Mrs. James Courtright, of Wilkes-Barre.

**An Aged Lady's Death.**

Early Friday, May 11, 1888, occurred the death of Mrs. Mary Johnson, 80 years of age, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Wells, in Georgetown. Her death was the result of old age. Mrs. Johnson was also the mother of Edward Johnson, a well known letter carrier of this city. She had been for many years a widow, and of seven children the two mentioned above are the only survivors. The funeral took place on Monday, with interment at Archbald, where other members of the family are buried.

**Mrs. David Walker Dead.**

Margaret R., wife of David Walker, died at her residence on Moyallen Street, after an illness of only a week's duration, June 6, 1888. On Decoration Day she sustained a stroke of paralysis, affecting the left side, and never fully recovered consciousness afterwards. She passed away as painlessly as if falling asleep. Mrs. Walker was 58 years of age and had lived 23 years in Wilkes-Barre. She is survived by her husband, a well-known brick layer of this city, and one son, Stanley, an architect, with W. W. Nener. Mrs. Walker was an attendant at Memorial Church. Though a native of America, having been born at Cambridge, N. Y., her parents were Scotch and she was a leading spirit in the social gatherings of the Wilkes-Barre Caledonian Club, of which her husband and son are active members. She has a brother, James R. Connel, living in Reynoldsville, Ohio, a sister, Mrs. Jane C. Mead, in Sandwich, Ill., and another sister, Mrs. Agnes Miller, in Nebraska.

**Major Whyte is Dead.**

On June 1, shortly after noon, Major Wm. E. Whyte, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, died at his home in West Pittston. He was 62 years old and was a native of South Wales. The *Evening Press* says "he came to America in 1854, and in 1856 to Pittston, where he has since resided most of the time. The major was a genial, companionable gentleman, of a high grade of intellectual capacity, and of much repute as an author." *Soranton Truth* says: "Major Whyte was a courtly, genial gentleman, an ardent lover of music, literature and art, and a forcible writer. He was fond of travel, and his descriptions of the scenes through which he passed were always graphic and interesting. Messrs. William H. Whyte and Harry Whyte of Soranton are his sons."

**The Late Mrs. Mary Yarrington Horn.**

Mrs. Mary Ann Horn, whose death has been noted on page 89 as having occurred at Port Clinton, Schuylkill County, May 12, was a daughter of Luther and Hannah Yarrington, and was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1812. She was a sister of T. Overton Yarrington, of Reading; and Mrs. Emily Hollenback Doyle, of Wilkes-Barre, is a granddaughter, her mother having been Lizzie Jackson, who married J. Mathias Hollenback. Miss Jane Jackson, whose death occurred a year or two ago, had just made a protracted visit to her niece, Mrs. Doyle.

## A MEMORABLE SALUTE.

The Brave and Patriotic Utterances of Abraham Lincoln in 1863, When the Timid Ones Advised against the Unveiling of the Goddess of Liberty.

[Written for the Record.]

The month of December, 1863, was memorable from the many stirring incidents which now form part of our nation's history, the different battle fields furnishing a large quota and no one man felt the throbbing of the Union hearts more than our God given President, Abraham Lincoln. One central thought often occupied his mind, what shall I say or what will I do, that will inspire and encourage our brave soldiers now in the field? 'Tis true the soldiers knew that he could not be with them in person, but they felt confident that his large heart took them all in, as the following incident taken from my old war scrap book, written at the time, will help to show:

Sometime in November, 1863, we read in camp from one of the Washington newspapers the following:

"President Lincoln invited a few friends, among them a few of his Cabinet, to meet him at a certain time, as he wished to have a short friendly conversation with them. The party met, and Lincoln saw at a glance curiosity and great anxiety depicted on some faces, enough to know what this friendly meeting meant, and in his straightforward, honest way, he struck the keynote, and the pith of his short address was, 'Gentlemen, I am glad to meet you, and will not occupy much of your valuable time. I have no doubt you are all aware that some time ago, indeed now some years ago, our government through the proper channels and officers, appropriated a certain sum of money for the designing, casting and completing of a suitable emblem, to be placed when done on the dome of the Capitol. This National order was put into the hands of our American sculptor, Mr. Clark Mills. Mr. Mills has completed his honorable task, some time ago furnishing to us a statue of the Goddess of Liberty appropriate in design, and of good material and workmanship. The statue now only awaits our order for its removal and erection. And as the dome of the capitol is so far completed as being ready to receive it, I have thought, that even amidst our national troubles, we could find time to complete that which was so nobly conceived and so far carried out. However, gentlemen, I shall be pleased to hear any suggestions from you and it is a part of your work, as well as mine.'

There was a deep silence for a time. At length one rose to his feet, and addressing the President said he approved of the

suggestions of the President and also the idea of an Emblem of Liberty for the dome of our Capitol. Still President Lincoln would it not be as well to postpone the matter until the result of the present conflict is known? Some of us here respectfully think so.

Another pause, and as no others spoke, Lincoln replied, "I thank you for your suggestion, and looking at the subject from another standpoint, you may not be far out of the way. But, gentlemen, there is a high standpoint from which to view every subject. Such view generally take in larger scope. We are surrounded with duties, but I have always found it best to attend to present ones first, if possible. The case I have presented is one of them. I think our duty is to put up the Goddess, and should any combination feel disposed and strong enough to pull her down, I will only say they will have a big and heavy job to handle."

When the paper was read in camp one grand cheer went up from the Boys in Blue for Abraham Lincoln.

In a few days orderlies could be seen galloping towards the fortification with an order from the War Department, to commanders of fortifications surrounding the capitol at Washington, including both sides of the Potomac, to have cannoners appointed, guns shotted and fully manned and stand in readiness to fire a national salute on the second day of December, 1863, by a signal to be given, in honor of the Goddess of Liberty being unveiled on the National Capitol. The order was strictly carried out at the forts. The weather was all that could be desired, a clear, cool, bracing day; the elements above and the elements below combined to make the scene around one truly grand and inspiring, the fort storm flags for miles around dancing in the breeze, the the guns all manned by good and true Union men, cannoners in position, lardyards stretched, ready waiting for the command to fire, which when given the roar of Union guns shook the whole District of Columbia, and how far beyond time alone will reveal as she rolls on. Truly it was a soul stirring scene, and when the booming guns ceased firing and the clouds of smoke cleared away, the Goddess of Liberty could be seen from miles away from her commanding position standing erect, unveiled to the world, firm as the rock on which the Government which she represents is based, a Government not established for a time, but with the blessing of God for all time. The emblem of Liberty is a fitting crown, crowning the dome of the National Capitol of the United States of America.

This simple incident on the part of President Lincoln had a good effect. The sol-

diers saw in it genuine courage. It helped to insure new hope, and strengthen patriotism in their ranks, which no doubt helped them to win the glorious and righteous cause they were manfully battling and contending for.

The life of Lincoln is full of pleasing incidents, as many of them ended in grand results. In every position he proved himself a true man, a true lover of his country, and all that pertained to her prosperity and onward progress. His benefits to mankind are well worthy a nation's gratitude, his noble acts will go down to posterity, and furnish a theme for coming generations.

JOHN Y. WREN,

Battery G, 2nd Art. 112th Regiment, one of the cannoneers at Fort Lincoln, Dec. 2, 1863, firing the national and memorial salute.

Plymouth, Pa., July 4, 1888.

#### A Good Citizen Dead.

On July 8th occurred the death of an old German resident of this city, Mathias Harpersberger, in his 78th year. He came here from Germany in 1840, bringing his wife, who was Miss Anna Maria Hoffner. She died in 1867 and he remained a widower up to the time he died. He was the father of six children, of whom two survive, Philip and George. The deceased was a contract carpenter and was a man who never knew what it was to be idle as long as health and strength permitted him to keep at work. He ceased active work a few years ago and was in good circumstances. He was a Lutheran by birth, a good citizen and business man who was trusted and respected. He had not been in good health for three years past and death was due to paralysis.

#### Heckewelder's Granddaughter Dead.

On May 24, at Bethlehem, occurred the death of Cecilia Louisa Luckenbach, who was born in Bethlehem Feb. 21, 1812. She was the daughter of Jacob Christian and Susanna Luckenbach (m. n. Heckewelder), granddaughter of the late John Heckewelder, for many years missionary among the Indians. She was the oldest of seven children. After the death of her mother she moved into the Sisters' House, where she resided until her death.

#### He Shouted But Did not Vote.

Wm. Dickover says he lacked a year of being old enough to vote for Harrison in 1840, but he shouted for the old man and helped haul logs for the cabin on Public Square.

#### They Voted for "Tippecanoe."

John Arnold, of Forty Fort, is proud of the fact that he voted for Harrison in 1840.

Abram Lyons, of Forty Fort, is another enjoying that proud distinction. He voted for Clay in 1832, and for Harrison in 1836 and 1840. He resided at the time, in Newport, and aided in building the famous log-cabin on Public Square.

John B. Smith, another of the old residents of Forty Fort, had the honor, voting for Harrison in 1840, and helping to construct the cabin. He hauled a 86 foot log from Plymouth for that purpose.

These three are of the same opinion still and will add to their laurels by doing what they can for the election of "Young Tip," as they call him.

The name of Josiah Lewis is to be added to the list of Harrison voters in 1840.

A. D. Pool, of Forty Fort, is another Tippecanoe campaigner of 1840, besides being a veteran of the late war. He is shouting for Ben Harrison in 1888. At Forty Fort the woods are full of 'em and a club will probably be organized.

Daniel Metzger, of this city, voted for Harrison in both 1836 and 1840. He is the father of Charles B. Metzger and is yet in good health, with good prospects of voting for a Harrison again.

Abraham Marcy, of Ashley Borough, took part in the "hard cider and log cabin" campaign of 1840. He hauled logs, hurred for Harrison and voted the winning ticket. "Young Tip" will get his vote next fall.

#### A Whig of 1840.

LAKE, July 2:—EDITOR RECORD: Hurrah for Harrison and Morton. That sounds natural. I voted for old Gen. Harrison in 1840, have been through twelve Presidential campaigns and now for the thirteenth.

On the Fourth of July, 1840, we had a meeting at the Log Cabin near Harvey's Lake. The cabin was near Henry Worthington's and stood there till a few years ago. Jonathan J. Slocum was the speaker.

I have a clothes brush that was purchased in 1840. On the back is the picture of a log cabin. Out by the door is a barrel of hard cider and Gen. Harrison turning around from his plow to shake hands with an old soldier.

Reading the last week's Democratic paper it charges Harrison of favoring Chinese immigration, at the same time accusing him of being a know nothing. So it is pig or pup, whichever suits best.

Well in 1840 we put in old Tippecanoe, and in 1888 we will put in the grandson, J. A. Boorx, Loyalville.

## THE TIPPECANOE SONG.

The Famous Campaign Song of "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" That Aroused Enthusiasm Back in 1840

What has caused this great commotion, motion, motion,

Our country through?  
It is the ball a-rolling on.

CHORUS—

For Tippecanoe and Tyler too—Tippecanoe and Tyler too,

And with them we'll beat little Van, Van;

Van is a used up man;

And with them we'll beat little Van,

Like the rushing of mighty waters, waters, waters,

On it will go,

And its course will cheer the way  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

See the Loco standard tottering, tottering, tottering,

Down it must go,

And in its place we'll rear the flag  
Of Tippecanoe, etc.

Have you heard the news from old Kentuck, tuck, tuck,

Good news and true,

Seventeen thousand is the tune  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

Have you heard from old Vermont, mount, mount,

All honest and true,

The Green Mountain boys are rolling the ball  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

Don't you hear from every quarter, quarter, quarter,

Good news and true,

That swift the ball is rolling on  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

The New York boys turned out in thousands, thousands, thousands,

Not long ago,

And at Utica they set their seals  
To Tippecanoe, etc.

Now you hear the Van Jacks talking, talking, talking,

Things look quite blue,

For all the world seems turning round  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

Let them talk about hard cider, cider, cider,

And log cabins, too,

'Twill only help to speed the ball  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

The latch string hangs outside the door, door, door,

And is never pulled through,

For it never was the custom of  
Old Tippecanoe, etc.

He always has his tables set, set, set,

For all honest and true,

And invite them in to take a bite  
With Tippecanoe, etc.

See the spoilsmen and log-treasurers, treasurers, treasurers,

All in a stew,

For well they know they stand no chance,  
With Tippecanoe, etc.

Little Marty's days are number'd, number'd, number'd,

Out he must go,  
And in the chair we'll place the good  
Old Tippecanoe, etc.

Now who shall we have for Governor, Governor, Governor?

Who, tell me who?

Let's have Bill Seward, for he's a team  
For Tippecanoe and Tyler too—Tippecanoe and Tyler, too,

And with them we'll beat little Van Van;

Van is a used up man,

And with them we'll beat little Van.

Oh, have you heard the news from Maine, Maine, Maine,

All honest and true?

One thousand for Kent, and seven thousand gain  
For Tippecanoe, etc.

## They Vote the Harrison Ticket

The veterans who voted for William Henry Harrison and intend to honor his grand son in the same way continue to come into notice. Mr. Silas Finch, of this city, is one of the number, and besides voting for the old hero, helped to build the log cabin, which he locates about where Breakstone's establishment now is. Mr. Finch tells a laughable story of a man named Dennis, who, Democrat-like, thought to elect his own candidate by blowing up the opposite party. Mr. Dennis bored a large auger hole in one of the logs of the cabin, and loaded it with powder, intending to explode it while the Harrison men were holding a meeting. He was detected, and to escape the wrath of the populace, he left town before daylight. He did not get a chance to vote at that election, at least not in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Finch, besides voting for Harrison, voted for Henry Clay. He is now 75 years of age and intends to have his vote counted for Ben Harrison in November next.

Another of the "Old Guard" is O. F. Reets, who cast his maiden vote for Tippecanoe and will cast his next for the Republican candidate.

## He Voted for Van Buren Every Time.

Moses C. Tamony was in the Emerald Monday to advertise a pair of gold spectacles which he had lost. He is one of the oldest men in town he says, he being 79 years of age and having come here in the spring of 1840. That was the year Harrison was running for the Presidency, but Mr. Tamony voted the Democratic ticket, which he has continued to do ever since. He has voted at 13 presidential elections.

### ONE HUNDRED AND TEN YEARS.

**Memorial Exercises at Wyoming Monument—The Interesting Observance Witnessed by a Large Assemblage.**

Ten years ago, after the Wyoming Centennial, it was determined to meet on each recurring 3d of July at the monument, so long as any of the members of the Commemorative Association should remain alive. The meetings have been held regularly, and the one of Tuesday last was in nowise less interesting than any which have preceded it.

Heretofore it has been customary to meet in the forenoon and end with a dinner at Col. Laycock's, but this year the meeting was held in the afternoon at 2, and the formal dinner was omitted. The borough of Wyoming was gaily decorated with flags. The weather was bright and beautiful. Seats were distributed throughout the shady portion of the enclosure so that all were comfortable. Flags hung from the monument, and at its base were vases of fresh flowers. The attendance was even larger than of last year. Among these present were Calvin Parsons, Sheldon Reynolds, Thomas H. Atherton, Dr. O. P. Knapp, Dr. Corsa, Oliver A. Parsons, Dr. P. A. Shive, Squire McKay, B. F. Dorrance, Rev. H. H. Welles, Rev. J. K. Peck, Evi D. Wilson, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Wesley Johnson, A. W. Gay, W. A. Wilcox, Rev. M. D. Fuller, James Parr, J. Frank Lee, G. S. Pfouts, Jr., Mr. Yost, Mr. Mackinson and Mr. Edwards, Mrs. Annie Yost, Mrs. Judge Pfouts, Mrs. Gilchrist, Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Mrs. B. F. Dorrance, Mrs. Sally Henry, Mrs. Stephen J. Sharpe, Mrs. Polen, Mrs. Major Hicks.

After Rev. J. K. Peck had offered prayer Col. Charles Dorrance, president of the association, made some introductory remarks, which, though brief, were timely, earnest and even eloquent. He said the occasion was saddened by the death of some of the members and the illness of others who were wont to assemble there. A touching tribute was paid to the memory of the late Payne Pettesbone, who recently died and whose home was almost in the shadow of the monument. Col. Dorrance said every heart should warm towards God for mercies, past and present, and for the priceless heritage left by the men whose bones lie beneath this monument. An appeal was made to parents that they bring their children here on each 3d of July that they may never forget the deeds of their brave ancestors. Is there no patriotic feeling in a community which enjoys so much of blessing and material prosperity as do the people of Wyoming Valley, and should there not be an enthusiastic honoring of the

men of '78 who dared to do and die. We are careless of our duty towards man and towards God. Col. Dorrance said with much warmth of feeling that this might be the last time he would ever be present, but he hoped that the children of the next generation would be educated to meet each 3d of July and commemorate the brave dead.

The chairman introduced John S. Harding, Esq., a descendant of the Hardings of Exeter, who were slain by the Indians while at work on their farm, two days before the massacre of Wyoming. Mr. Harding did not go into any local history, but presented an admirable address on the comparative greatness of America and the other nations of the world. He began by showing that Wyoming ranks with Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill in its effects upon the struggling cause of freedom. Before the battle of Bunker Hill such an idea as forming an independent nation entirely separated from Great Britain had not been conceived of, even by Washington or Jefferson. It was not until after the conflicts at Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill that the struggling colonists sprang to arms and cried for liberty.

And equally great and far reaching were the effects of the battle and massacre of Wyoming two years later upon the destinies of the colonies and the cause of free government. As the news of the battles of Bunker Hill, Lexington and Concord resulted in the Thirteen Colonies joining in their declaration of independence and uniting in the war for freedom, just as surely and inevitably did the story of the bravery, the sufferings and the massacre of the 300 patriots at Wyoming knit them together in the great struggle, and render possible the evolution from the conflict of the United States of America, her government springing from and founded upon the sovereign will of her individual citizens, a nation, the leader of the world, in intellect and in wealth, in the strength of her government, and the security and happiness of her people, and with a future destiny of such infinite probabilities that the mind of mortal man can neither estimate nor realize.

As the battle and the massacre of Wyoming was such a potent factor in the results that flowed from our great struggle for independence, I have thought it appropriate to the day we commemorate, to call to your attention briefly the actual and material state of our own body politic as compared with other nations of the world.

The United States, the growth of scarcely more than a century, has already reached the foremost rank among nations, and is destined soon to out-distance all in the race. In population, in wealth, in annual savings, and in public credit, in freedom from debt,



in agriculture and in manufactures America already leads the civilized world. France with her sunny skies and fertile plains, requires 160 years to grow two Frenchmen where one grew before. Great Britain whose rate of increase is greater than that of any other European nation, takes 70 years to double her population. The Republic has repeatedly doubled hers in 25 years. Truly the Republic is the Minerva of Nations, full armed she has sprung from the brow of Jupiter Britain. The 13 millions of America in 1880 have now increased to more than 60 millions—more English speaking people than exist in all the world besides, more than in the United Kingdom, and all her colonies, even though the latter were doubled in population.

In 1850 the total wealth of the United States was less than 9,000 millions of dollars, while that of Great Britain exceeded 23,500 millions. In 1882 the golden load of the monarchy was 43,600 millions. In the census of 1880, two years before, the wealth of the United States was placed at 48,950 millions. And this is not altogether due to the enormous agricultural resources of the United States; it is largely attributable to her manufacturing industries, for as all the world does not know, the United States, and not Great Britain, is also the greatest manufacturing country.

In the savings of nations the United States comes first, exceeding the United Kingdom by 280 millions of dollars and France by 350 millions.

In shipping the Republic ranks next the world's carrier, Britain; but the internal commerce of the United States, her carrying power on land, exceeds the entire foreign commerce of Great Britain and Ireland, France, Germany, Russia, Holland, Austria, Hungary and Belgium combined.

The Pennsylvania R.R. system transports more tonnage than all the merchant ships of Great Britain. In military and naval power the Republic is at once the weakest and the strongest of all nations. Her regular army consists of but 25,000 men, stationed all over the country, in companies of 50 or 100. Her navy amounts to scarcely anything, in comparison to the navies of other nations. But during the Civil War she called in action more than 2,000,000 of armed men, and floated 628 war ships.

Of more importance than her commercial and military strength, is the Republic's commanding position in intellectual activities. She excels in the number of her schools and colleges, in the number and extent of her libraries, and in the number of her newspapers and other periodical publications.

No other people have devised so many labor-saving machines and appliances. The

first commercially successful steamboat navigated the Hudson, and the first steamship to cross the Atlantic sailed under the American flag, and from an American port. It was an American who first discovered the identity of lightning and electricity, an American who devised the best and most widely known system of telegraphy, and an American who bound together the old and the new world with electric chains. 180,000 miles of railroad, more than in the whole of Europe, traverse our country in all directions, while 760,000 miles of telegraph, enough to put 30 girdles around the earth, establish instant communication from centre to circumference of our land. Oh! My country men! Should we not always feel and act an honest pride in our Americanism? There is not in all historic time a grander record than that of the United States. And should we not, as the descendants and successors of the brave men, who fought, and suffered and died here upon these grounds, who gave their life's blood in order that such an Americanism might be possible and that we might inherit the promise, should we not always delight in showing respect and honors to their memories, and in commemorating their sacrifices? To us the 3d and the 4th of July should be forever bound together by the same chain of patriotic gratitude and reverence. When we cease to remember the sacrifices of our ancestry on this soil, then will the sources of our patriotism be tried up, and the foundation of our citizenship will totter. On commemorations such as this throughout the length and breadth of this great land depend in a large degree on the stability of our institutions, and the purity of our national well springs. May the blighting influence of forgetfulness and ingratitude never reach the soil made sacred by the battle and the massacre of Wyoming.

The secretary read a letter of regret from Dr. H. Hollister, of Scranton, in which he said: "Death and disease is melting away our numbers, but I trust it may be long before the commemoration of the sad day we observe will be forgotten by the patriotic sons of Wyoming. As long as the Susquehanna shall wash the banks of the valley in its tranquil mood, may the day be remembered and set apart to recall its earliest trials and massacres. Accept the regrets of your palsied friend for his absence upon this occasion."

Secretary Johnson supplemented the letter with brief remarks, after which Col. Frank Stewart, of Berwick, whom Col. Dorrance introduced as a descendant of the brave Lazarus Stewart, made a stirring address, from which the following matter is extracted:

We have come here in the performance of

a deep obligation we owe to the memory of the little Trojan band of 300 whose hearts knew no fear and whose exploits, bravery and genuine heroism, not only form the brightest page of Wyoming history, but challenges the world for its equals. This mausoleum belongs to us, it contains blood of our blood, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone, and to us and our posterity, and their posterity and to posterity yet unborn it will descend and as the billowy tide of time rolls on, it will brighten and brighten and command higher and higher regard in Wyoming's impartial historian. The beautiful granite monument erected, whose lofty peak greets the rising sun, may crumble and decay, the head that planned, the hand that carved, the arm that reared it may mould to dust, but "sacred to the memory of" has been written in golden letters on the tablet for all future generations.

Let us now for a moment follow the trail of the savage, the perpetrator of barbarity, and the end of his race. Where now is the mighty Indian Empire that then spread from shore to shore? Where are the dusky forms that once filled this valley and stood in the majesty of nature the undisputed masters of the soil? Savage life has yielded to civilization. The woodland has bowed before the axe of the sturdy joiner, and a once numerous race has dwindled to a handful. They are no longer the same brave and warlike people. They have imbibed our vices more than our virtues. They are fast sinking into degradation and decay, and ere the lapse of another century they will all perhaps have been swept from the face of the earth. The last Indian, perhaps, will have bowed his knee for the last time before the setting sun and mingle his relics with the mouldering remains of his father in the mighty mausoleum of his race. On the very spot we now occupy, the wigwam perhaps once stood or the council fire blazed. But they are gone forever, the frowning forest which once echoed the Indian war whoop has disappeared, and in its place we behold the farm house and fields waving with the green and golden products of the earth. On the rivers, where the children of the forest bathed their manly limbs and paddled their bark canoes, the lofty ship is now seen, and the city rises with its hum of industry and its towering spires, glittering in the sun beams of heaven. Brilliant and beautiful indeed on the part of civilization is the change; but melancholy to the heart of humanity are the memorials of that numerous people fast fading away. Like the leaves of their native forest they are falling one by one, and at some future day when they shall all have long since been gathered to the grave of Indian glory and another Rome and Athens shall have arisen

on the rivers of the West, some youth perhaps skilled in classic lore will point to the wrecks and relics they shall have left behind them, and wonder of what manner of people they were.

Let us now in conclusion, return to the duty of the hour. Let us bedeck the quiet resting place of our heroes of 1773, with the rose bedewed with a tear. Let us go with consecrated flowers, God's own bright beautiful gifts to earth, emblems of purity, symbols of love and glory and excellence, and with brotherly hands bounteously strew the sod that covers the sacred dust.

F. C. Johnson, of the Record, was called upon and gave a memorial sketch of the late Payne Pettebone, a leading member of the Commemorative Association, whose death occurred March 20, 1838.

Thomas Henry Atherton, Esq., was called on and made brief remarks. As he had come purely as a visitor he felt as if he deserved more credit than if he had come to make a speech.

Rev. J. K. Peck, a nephew of Rev. Dr. Geo. Peck, one of the historians of the valley, was called on. He was sorry that the original plan to make this monument a high one had been abandoned and that because the Wyoming people were defeated, it was thought better to build the monument only moderately high. [Col. Dorrance explained that the reason the monument was not built higher was because the "parse got short."] Mr. Peck said his wife was a granddaughter of Roger Bearle, who escaped from the fight, but his name was not on the monument in the list of the escaped, nor was that of Anning Owen, who became converted while escaping from the slaughter and who organized Methodism in Wyoming Valley.

Hon. Steuben Jenkins followed. He said the list of slain as given on the monument was not complete, nor that of the escaped. There never was any complete list, nor is there yet. Wyoming reached from the New York line down to Nescopeek Creek, a large territory, and the settlers were driven down the river by the advancing force of British and Indians, and all these took part in the battle. Who knows who fell or who escaped? After the battle John Franklin and Obadiah Gore wrote down all they could remember, and they made 164 names. These are on the monument. Of these I know two that escaped. I have now a list of 185 killed here, not counting the Hardings and others slain previous to the battle. I have increased the list of escaped also, and am still at work on the two lists. Col. Denison said he had 311 men slain. The general account is that 300 were killed. There are only 96 buried beneath the monument. Mr. Jenkins said that thus far everything

that had been said had been about the men of Wyoming, he wanted to pay a tribute to the women. Though their hardships and privations were terrible, yet in a month and two days after the massacre, some of them were back again to start life anew under the same trying circumstances.

Rev. H. H. Welles made some brief remarks and dismissed the assemblage with the benediction.

#### A TIPPECANOE INCIDENT.

A Vote Which Was Not Counted for Harrison in 1840, but It Helped the Tippecanoe Candidate all the Same—The Veteran Saddler Will Vote for the Grandson.

James D. Laird, the veteran saddler, was a Tippecanoe campaigner of 1840, but he did not get his vote in, and the reason of his not doing so, is worth telling. He came of age that year while learning the saddler's trade in New Jersey and returned to his Wilkes-Barre home in the summer. He took great interest in the campaign, rolled up his sleeves for Harrison and made his first political speech in the old log cabin near the corner of Public Square and East Market Street. When election day came round he went to the polls, but was challenged on the ground that he had not resided here for a year. Mr. Laird says the challenge came from Charles Morgan, then and now a substantial citizen of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Morgan was then a Democrat but for many years he has been an ardent Republican, and he and Mr. Laird have some good natured laughs over the challenge of 1840. Mr. Laird yielded gracefully to the situation, but kept his eyes and ears open. A little later Tony Emley came to him and said this was all wrong to keep his vote out, and he would have the board receive it. Mr. Laird was made suspicious by this unexpected magnanimity on the part of the wily Democratic banker, and upon investigation he learned that there were two Democrats who had been challenged by Whigs on similar grounds, and the only way to get them in would be to withdraw all the challenges and let Laird and the two Democrats vote. One of the challenged Democrats was Sam Bowman, who is still living, and who subsequently achieved a brilliant record in the war of the Rebellion. Mr. Laird refused to offer his vote again. He was entirely willing to lose his vote so long as by so doing he kept two Democrats away from the polls. Thus it will be seen that though in fact he did not get in his vote, he accomplished even more for the party than if he had voted.

#### The Massacre of Wyoming.

July 3rd, 1778.

*Dramatis Personæ*—An Old Resident and a Stranger. *Scene*—Prospect Rock.

INSCRIBED TO WILLIAM P. MINER, ESQ.

"There is the valley, look around—  
See, there's the winding river,  
And just above the bend's the ground,  
(Historic ground forever)  
On which the patriots fought and died,  
Father and son and grandsire hoary  
Each took his part against the allied  
Forces of Indians and of Tories.

"Tell you the tale? You must be a stranger,  
From a strange land, to never have heard  
Of the sorrow and fear, the anguish and danger  
The settlers were in on that memorable third  
When all Hell seemed let loose, and Satan himself  
Led the red-handed host in the bloody affray,  
When they came on their homes and accomplished  
By stealth  
Their murderous work on that terrible day!

"Just sit down here and rest, while with my  
mind's eye,  
I search for a date to begin with the story:  
'Twas in seventy-eight, on the third of July—  
(A hundred years now since that conflict so  
gory.)

Those were soul-trying times a century back,  
Our country was then in the throes of its birth  
And the patriots here—and there were no lack—  
Had gone to assist—leaving defenceless their  
hearth.

"'Twas then Tory Butler, and his blood-thirsty  
crew  
Swooped down on their prey like wolves on the  
fold,  
And fathers and mothers, sons and daughters  
they slew  
Till but few were left, that the tale might be  
told.

"Twas a terrible day, and a horrible deed,  
When father 'gainst son and son against sire  
Were arrayed, and each caused the other to bleed  
And wreaked on each other a vengeance most  
dire.

"'Twas in vain they cried mercy! no mercy they  
gave,  
But, thirsting for blood, with their tomahawks  
keen  
Struck them down in their tracks, age nor youth  
did they spare  
So hellish their fury—O, dire was the scene!  
Four hundred or more fell in the affray,  
Gave up their life's blood for their country and  
home—  
True patriots those who died on that day  
Whose deeds will live on for ages to come.

\* \* \* \* \*  
"There is the valley—historic vale—  
Where sleep the brave their battles o'er;  
Hard was their lot, and sad the tale  
That tells of all their hardships sore.  
Harassed were they on every side,  
Both by Indian and by Tory,  
Until in Freedom's cause they died,  
Upon that field—A field of Glory."  
J. Andrew Boyd, in Wyoming Magazine.

## LOCAL BARDS.

**An Interesting Sketch by W. S. Monroe, in the Cambrian, on the Welsh Poets and Poetry of Wyoming Valley.**

The Welsh inhabitants of the United States cling with singular tenacity to the traditions and customs of their fatherland. poetry and song, the national heir-looms for ages, have their devoted guardians wherever the language is spoken. Irish, as pure Erse, has almost entirely ceased to be heard; Cornish died a hundred years ago; Gaelic and Breton have severely altered under the corrosion of change; but the Welsh utterance still retains all the vigor and purity of its original phrase.

I have made researches concerning the most meritorious of the poets and poetry of the Wyoming Valley, but being unacquainted with the Welsh language the notices are necessarily brief and barren of any criticism. Rev. J. P. Harris (Ieuan Ddu) is the author of a sacred drama entitled "Joseph and his Brethren," and is a very ready composer of Englyns. Of his songs, the most popular is one on the death of Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Harris is a Baptist clergyman who came from Wales in 1840. In war times he ministered to a congregation at Hyde Park, but at present he is pastor of the English Baptist Church at Nanticoke. Rev. Joseph E. Davis, now deceased, although the author of a hundred hymns, is best known by his productions in prose. One of his books is entitled "The Religions of the World," but his great work was a "System of Theology," in four bulky volumes. The opinions and conclusions of the venerable divine are soundly orthodox, and confirmatory of the Calvinism he preached. His remains are interred at Hyde Park, where most of his life labor centered. Rev. John "Gwrhyd" Lewis is a graduate of Carmarthen College; he came to this country in 1878 and is at present pastor of the Welsh Congregational Church, of Wilkes-Barre. Although it is claimed that, being in the prime of life, he has not put forth his greatest efforts in poetry, Mr. Lewis is a "chair-bard," than whom there is none more honored. His principal poems—"Joshua," a heroic of several thousand lines, "Garfield" and "Cleopatra"—are accounted to be perfectly classical and notable for their rich and careful imagination. Rev. T. O. Edwards (Oynonfardd), of Kingston, owing to his elocutionary powers, is probably the best known Welshman in Wyoming Valley. He, like Mr. Lewis, is a graduate of Carmarthen College, and came to this country as a Welsh Congregational minister. His first charge, in 1870, was the church at Brookfield, Ohio,

but in a short time he came to Wyoming Valley, and situated first at Wilkes-Barre, and then at Kingston, where he resides at present as pastor of the Welsh Congregational church of Edwardsville, and professor of elocution at Wyoming Seminary. Mr. Edwards has on two occasions won "chair prizes," first at an Eisteddfod at Pittston, on the poem "Solomon," and again at the great Eisteddfod of 1876, at Hyde Park, on the poem "The Mayflower," which afterwards lent its name to the title of a collection of his poems. This volume met with a ready sale and is much prized by Welsh readers, especially for its minor poems, among which, the most popular are, "The Babe and the Moon," "The Star of Hope" and "The Youth." Two of his longer poems are "Cromwell" and "The Maniac."

David O. Powell, the most original of the Welsh bards, came to the valley in 1836 and has a wide reputation as an able poet and essayist. Among his poetical pieces are elegies, soliloquies, and odes of various descriptions, with titles such as "Happiness," "The Outcast Girl," "Melchisedec," "Generosity," and "The Grave of the Babe." Of his numerous pieces works the most important are the treatise on "Geology," and a recent essay on the "Mineral Resources of Schuylkill County." In the beautiful Forty Fort cemetery is a monument over the grave of a genius. It is a simple stone erected by lamenting bards to preserve the memory of David Jenkins (Llwohrog), the Welsh Poe, who gave brilliant promise as a poet. He came from Wales in 1838, and had written marvellously on "Love," "To a River," and "The Eisteddfod." He met his untimely death in a Carbon County coal mine, and was buried at Eckley; but his friends and admirers later removed his remains to their present lovely resting place. Others who have written much Welsh verse, and meritiously, are John H. Powell, David Jones (Dewi Ogle), Isaac Benjamin (Bardd Coch), Daniel J. Evans (Danil Dru), and James W. Reese (Athenydd), all of Scranton; Benjamin Thomas (Alaw Dulais), of Taylorsville; D. L. Richards and Morgan C. Jones (Oledwyn), of Wilkes-Barre; H. G. Williams (Gieddywson), of Plymouth; Thomas C. Evans (Ollcoenin), of Nanticoke; and Griffith P. Williams (Fegynys), John B. Davis, and Moses D. Evans, of Kingston.

David Morgan Jones, the lawyer poet, was born in 1843, in the city of New York. Part of his boyhood he spent in Wales. He received his education in that country, also at the Scranton High School, and at the Lewisburg University, where he was graduated in 1867. In the following year he was admitted to practice at the Union County bar, but soon removed his office to Wilkes-Barre, where he is still actively pursuing his pro-

feasion. Mr. Jones' course in literature has naturally been desultory. While possessing a pure quality of poetic talent, it is not often that he is permitted by the exigencies of his business to take from its dusty corner the well beloved lyre, and charm an idle moment with a song. As rapidly as they are produced, his poems have appeared in the *Philadelphia Press* and other city journals. In 1882, J. B. Lippincott & Co. published "Lethe and Other Poems," through which Mr. Jones is perhaps best known to the public. It had a rapid sale and the edition was soon exhausted. This volume, however, does not contain the best things which he has written. He has done better work since for the *Boston Pilot* and other papers. The leading poem of the book "Lethe" is not in his best vein. Among the shorter pieces, about fourteen in number, probably the most admired is "The Vanished Maiden." At all times Mr. Jones has been in popular demand as poet for public celebrations. In this capacity he read before the assembled literary societies of Lewisburg University, in 1880, his poem on "William Loyd Garrison;" this and that other notable creation of his on "Eloquence," together with the poems which have appeared since the publication of "Lethe," would warrant a new edition of his works. Notwithstanding his own self-depreciation, the fact is patent to observers that among the very few poetical geniuses which Wyoming Valley has produced, Mr. Jones is one of the finest and most original. There is only one complaint which I have to make against his verse, and that fault redounds to its classical excellence. There is a peculiar gliding movement in his metre, which, while it charms the ear, partially defeats the stress of the thought; but, beneath the surface, all the results of potent imagination are exhibited. Mr. Jones will not reach his merited station in the estimation of the public, until readers recognize that he is not to be read as versifiers are, hastily and carelessly, but with the attention and loyalty that a true poet deserves.

William George Powell, the son of a well known Welsh bard, is one of our youngest and most promising writers of verse. He was born at Soranton; spent one year at the military academy at West Point; graduated from the Pottsville High School, and is at present engaged in teaching. He has a well stored mind, a compass of invention, and a luxuriance of poetic fancy. Mr. Powell's faculty for singing is well disciplined; his verses are replete with classical allusions, and always fashioned after the best models of poetic art. Occasionally his stanzas are so subtly constructed that they lose that sweet and unstudied simplicity which pleases the

ear and touches the heart of the reader. He has written eight sonnets which are shrewd, caustic, careful, and manifest energy of thought and condensed felicity of expression; they represent widely different grades of motive and execution, and are sometimes stiff and labored, but never violate the canons of taste and criticism. Of these, "The Death of Burns," "Longfellow in Italy," and Shelley's *Prometheus Unbound* probably best indicate the classical correctness and closeness of his style; although in several other of his sonnets, there are some delicate touches and pleasing descriptions. In "The Welsh Harp" and "The Dream" he marshals his dactylic measures with the ease and precision of a trained lieutenant; they seem to have been dictated by real pulses of feeling, and are full of lyrical melody and natural tenderness. The ode "To Venus" is marked by a vein of One feeling and happy expression, and as the half gleeful, half prophetic carols of the blue bird on a fair March morning announces the return of the feathered songsters, these early, liquid, bubbling notes by Mr. Powell herald a new voice in the Wyoming Valley choir, from whom maturer strains are not unlikely to flow.

#### Bibliography of Wyoming.

EDITOR RECORD: I send you herewith a few titles which might be added to Rev. H. E. Hayden's *Bibliography of the Wyoming Valley* published in the second volume of *Proceedings and Collections of Wyoming Historical and Geological Society*. You have leave to print if you think them of sufficient importance. W. A. W.

Wyoming, July 10, 1888.

CORSA, REV. CHARLES C.—*Presbytery of Susquehanna* by the Rev. Charles C. Corsa. 1875, 48 pages, 12 mo.

[September 20th, 1870, the Presbyteries of Susquehanna, Montrose and Luzerne were united under the name of Presbytery of Lackawanna. By request of Presbytery of Lackawanna this history of the Presbytery of Susquehanna was prepared by Rev. Mr. Corsa. In the same way the History of Presbytery of Luzerne was prepared by Rev. Dr. Parke (see Hayden's Bibliography), and the History of Montrose Presbytery by Rev. Adam Miller, see below.]

DURFEE, J. R.—*Reminiscences of Carbondale, Dundoiff, and Providence. Forty Years Past*. By J. R. Durfee. 12 mo., 150pp. Philadelphia: Miller's Bible Publishing House. 1875.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SCRANTON—October 14, 1848 1878 Pastors J. D. Mitchell, J. F. Baker, M. J. Hickok, D. D.,

**W. C. Logan, D. D. Memorial Services.** Twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the First Presbyterian Church of Scranton, Pa., Sabbath, November 16, 1878. 108 pp. 12 mo., Scranton, Pa. *Republican office*, 1878.

**HALL, A. J.**—Sketch of the Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Carbon-dale, and Kingston, Luzerne County, Pa., A. J. Hall, Syracuse, N. Y., 34 pp., 12 mo. B. Herman Smith, general job printer, Syracuse, N. Y., 1868.

[About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of each page is given to advertisements.]

**KIRKPATRICK, REV. H. M.**—The Old Sullivan Road. A series of articles published (beginning November, 1893,) in *The Guardian*, a monthly magazine, etc. Philadelphia: Reformed Church Publication Board.

**MILLER, REV. ADAM.**—The Presbytery of Montross. A historical discourse delivered before the Presbytery of Lackawanna at Pittston, Pa., April 17, 1872, by Rev. Adam Miller, pastor of the church in Harford, Pa. Published by request, 80 pp. 12 mo. Harrisburg, Pa., Benjamin Singely, printer and binder, 1872.

**NEFF, JACOB K., M. D.**—The Army and Navy of America, containing a view of the heroic adventures, battles, naval engagements, remarkable incidents, and glorious achievements in the cause of freedom, from the period of the French and Indian wars to the close of the Mexican war; independent of an account of warlike operations on land and sea; enlivened by a variety of the most interesting anecdotes, and embellished with engravings. By Jacob K. Neff, M. D. "Concordia res parvæ crescent discordia maximæ delabuntur." 8 vo. 684 pp. Lancaster, Pa., John H. Pearsol, printer, 1852.

[Chapter XVII contains an account of the Wyoming Massacre.]

**REPORT** of the committee appointed to investigate the railroad riots in July, 1877. Read in the Senate and House of Representatives May 23, 1878. 8 vo., 1000 pp. Harrisburg, Lane S. Hart, State printer, 1878.

**ROGERS, REV. JOEL.**—History of the Susquehanna Association, (Baptist) by the late Rev. Joel Rogers, of the Wyoming Valley. Published in pamphlet form in 1832.

[See Baily's Abington Association, p. vii. The Baptist Historical Society, Philadelphia, has a copy of this, not perfect, however.]

**WALLACE, MRS. SARAH S. T.**—The Boys of Wyoming Valley. One of Life's True Tales. By Mrs. Sarah S. T. Wallace. Author of "Julia's Visit," "Rosalie's Les-

sons," etc. 18 mo., 164 pp. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1860. [It is in no sense a "true tale."]

**WILKINSON, J. B.**—The Annals of Binghamton, and of the country connected with it. From the earliest settlement. By J. B. Wilkinson. Opus gratum posteritati. 18 mo. 266 pp. Binghamton: Cooke & Davis, printers, 1840.

[Chapter II. contains much concerning Wyoming, the Susquehanna, Brandt and Sullivan's expedition.]

**WINSON, JUSTIN.** 1779.—Sullivan's Expedition against the Indians of New York. A Letter from Andrew McFarland Davis to Justin Winsor, Corresponding Secretary Massachusetts Historical Society. With the Journal of William McKendry. 8 vo., 45 pp. Cambridge: John Wilson & Son, University Press. 1893.

[Contains list of thirty-two journals of the Sullivan Expedition.]

I find the following in a catalogue of government publications:

**MEMORIAL RELATIVE TO WYOMING CLAIMS—Citizens of Pennsylvania:** Dec. 27, 1837—Ex. Docs., No. 52, 25th Cong., 2d Sess., Vol. 2, 8 pp., 8 vo. In behalf of the sufferers by the invasion of the Wyoming settlement by the British and Indians, during the Revolutionary war, praying for a grant of land to the survivors and to the heirs of those who are dead.

**RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO CLAIMS OF WYOMING SUFFERERS—Pa. Legislature,** April 16, 1838—Ex. Docs., No. 353, 25th Cong., 2d Sess., Vol. X, 2 pp., 8 vo.

[In favor of the passage of a law granting compensation to the sufferers by the Wyoming massacre during the Revolutionary War.]

**REPORT ON PETITION OF HEIRS OF THE WYOMING VICTIMS—July 2, 1838.** Reports of Committee, No. 1032, 25th Cong., 2d Sess., Vol. IV., 2 pp., 8 vo.

[House Revolutionary claims from the reports adversely to allowance of compensation for losses sustained use.]

**PETITION RELATIVE TO INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS—Citizens of Wyoming.** February 13, 1839—Ex docs No. 203, 25th Cong. 3d sess., Vol. IV, 40 pages 8 vo.

[Praying compensation for losses and sufferings occasioned by the attack of the Indians on the towns of Wyoming during the Revolutionary war.]

There might perhaps be added also the State Mine Inspector's Reports; Reports Secretary Internal Affairs, Geological Survey Report, etc., and Luzerne County Prison Reports, also the Coal Trade, a compendium relative to Coal Production etc., published annually by Frederick E. Seward, New York City.

## INCIDENTS OF THE MASSACRE

## As Related by a Daughter of Dr. William Hooker Smith—Horrible Atrocities of the Indians.

[We reprint the following narrative, not because it is historically accurate, for it is not, but simply because it is a contribution to the history of the Massacre of Wyoming. It is only fair to say that the liquor incident of that bloody day has been greatly exaggerated in this and other accounts.—EDITOR RECORD.]

Sarah, daughter of Dr. William Hooker Smith, became the wife of James Sutton, one of the pioneers of Wyoming; and James Sutton, grandson of the foregoing now residing in *Honesdale*, remembers hearing his grandmother say that they lived up the creek about two or three miles from the fort, back of where Kingston now is. It had been arranged that a signal gun should be fired at the fort in case of danger. One day they heard the gun, and as Mrs. Sutton was sick she was carried into the fort on a litter. She says that Col. Z. Butler did not intend to leave the fort, but the officer who came up from below with reinforcements taunted him with being a coward, threatening to withdraw his forces if he did not go out, and he finally concluded to go. Before they started a table was placed in front of the fort and whisky and water was set on it in buckets, with tin cups, and the men marched around the fort three times in single file, and helped themselves freely before they started out. One man, by the name of Inman, was so full that he fell down beside the road on Swetland's farm and fell into a drunken sleep, while the rest of the men passed on and were ambushed and overcome by superior numbers and defeated. The Indians showed no mercy but killed all the prisoners that fell into their hands. They seated a number of prisoners in a circle and amused themselves by seizing them by the hair and killing them with a tomahawk. One of the men thus seated asked them if they were going to kill them all, and the Indians told him, yes. The man thought he might as well die one way as another, so he nudged his companion with his elbow, and they both sprang up and jumped the board fence near by and started for the fort. The Indians had stacked their guns and had nothing but their tomahawks in their hands. These they let fly at the runaways but fortunately without effect, and they succeeded in reaching the fort. After the surrender of the fort an Indian recognized one of these men and

slapped him on the back and said, "Good fellow, good fellow." After the defeat many fled through the wilderness and some for the fort. Two men were thus fleeing, hotly pursued by two Indians and they passed where Inman lay just as he was awaking from his drunken stupor, and they called upon him to shoot the pursuing Indians. His gun lay beside him loaded just as he had started out to battle and he fired and killed one of the Indians and joined the two fugitives and they entered the fort together. There were about 40 old men and a number of women and children in the fort, and the Tory Colonel John Butler; told them to destroy all the whisky otherwise he could not restrain the Indians; consequently they put ropes around the barrels and four men bore them on poles out into the river and Mr. Sutton waded in and knocked the barrel heads in, but some of the old men thought that they could not get along without some whisky, so they hid some in bottles and demijohns and of course the Indians found them and made a night of terror for the prisoners. The Indians put red paint on the prisoners' foreheads, cheeks, chins and noses, and this sign was respected by them; still they kept the women screaming all night by seizing them by the hair of the head and drawing their heads back, and with up-lifted tomahawk make them think they were about to dash their brains out; or they would seize an infant by the legs and swing it out as though they were about to dash it against the wall. When the women screamed they laughed. All night long this horrible devilry was going on, but no one was killed. The Tories left in a short time but the Indians remained for several weeks.—R. M. Stocker in *Honesdale Independent*.

## Early Wilkes-Barre Papers in Kansas.

Harold T. Chase sends the RECORD a copy of the Topeka, Kansas, *Capitol*, which says: F. E. Jerome, of Wilson, Kan., the John Brown singer, has presented the State Historical Society with five original copies of the *Gleaner* and *Luzerne Advertiser*, published at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The dates range from October 11 to November 26, 1811. The first page is devoted exclusively to advertising. One prominent one starts out: "Old line mail stage from Philadelphia to Easton and Wilkes-Barre." On the same page is: "Eloped from my bed and board my wife Comfort." Among the important news items is the information that "John Quincy Adams has declined the judgeship offered him in the United States Court."

## LAPSED AFTER 150 YEARS.

**A Title from the Penns, Based on a Curious Condition for which the Easton People Ought to have Looked out.**

The mayor of Easton on July 14 received from a Philadelphia lawyer the following letter, which was published in the *Free Press* and caused quite a stir in that place:

DEAR SIR: Mr. William Stewart, of London, England, the present head of the House of Penn, in England, and the holder in fee in remainder of the Penn estate, in Pennsylvania, has forwarded me a power of attorney to enter upon, claim and recover lot of ground in the Centre Square of Easton, containing in length north and south 80 feet, in breadth east and west 80 feet, conveyed by Thomas and Richard Penn to Trustees of Northampton County for the erection thereon a court house, and for no other purpose. The condition upon which this was held having been broken, the title reverts to the Penns upon entry. I shall be pleased to hear from you or your counsel prior to July 23, 1888, on which day I shall make entry.

Very truly yours,

C. B. TAYLOR.

## EASTONIANS THINK IT A HOAX.

EASTON, July 16.—Many of the old citizens of Easton claim that the letter received last Saturday by Mayor Chideey, purporting to have come from a Philadelphia lawyer, in which the writer says that William Stuart, of London, England, and the holder in fee in remainder of the Penn estate, in Pennsylvania, gave him the power of attorney to claim and recover a lot of ground in Centre Square, in this city, does not disturb them. They look at it as if the mayor was the victim of some practical joker. In all the old maps and documents the ground is mentioned as Public Square, and if the letter was written from data furnished by the Penn heirs, the word public instead of centre, in designating the square, would have been used. I have the best authority for saying that the "Penn heirs," if there are any, have no right to land in Pennsylvania, all such having long since been conveyed to the Commonwealth, by whom the deeds are granted for unoccupied lands upon settlement.

Some years ago a young member of the Northampton County Bar, who is now a resident of Philadelphia, bethought himself what a good speculation was in store for

whoever could secure the rights of the Penn heirs to the title to the land in question. He wrote any number of letters to England, asking for information, but was unable to get any encouragement. He finally gave up the job, saying there was nothing in it. About fifty years ago men claiming to be Penn heirs came here and served notice on many residents of South Fourth street that the title by which they held their properties was defective. After a time they offered a compromise, but the late Joseph Sigman and a few others said they preferred litigation to a compromise, when the claimants left and have never been heard from since.

## A FORMER KINGSTONIAN.

Mr. Charles Belding, Now a Prominent Citizen of Stockton, Cal., was an Old Boyhood Companion of Mayor Sutton.

Mayor Sutton was found by a RECORD reporter in a retrospective mood. He showed the reporter a copy of the Stockton, Cal., *Commercial Record* which contained likenesses with biographies of several of Stockton's prominent citizens. Among those mentioned at length is Charles Belding. He came with his parents from Massachusetts to Kingston, when but six years of age. Eight or ten years thereafter he and Mayor Sutton used to attend the Wyoming Seminary as students, and they used also to hoe broom corn together on Kingston flats, Mr. Belding's father being engaged in the manufacture of brooms.

Mr. Belding is remembered by many of the older residents of Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, as a young man of ability and energy. He removed to Mauch Chunk in 1847 and entered the employ of Asa Packer. Soon after this he removed to Stockton, Cal., where he has since resided. He has been for more than a third of a century been identified with the growth and development of that city, and has filled several positions of responsibility and trust in the city and county. He engaged largely in real estate speculation, and became immensely wealthy. His residence in Stockton is considered the finest in the city. He was married in 1859 to Miss Josephine Latimer, of Calaveras County, and is the father of four children. The many friends of Mr. Belding, who have not heard from him in years, will be particularly gratified to know of his recognized position of power and influence in his adopted State, and to know the high regard in which he is held by his fellow citizens.



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## REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

**The Old Soldiers Make a Clean Sweep in the County Convention—The Candidates.**

Republican nominations August 21, 1868:  
CONGRESS.

Edwin Sylvanus Osborne, the Republican nominee for Congress, was born in Bethany, Wayne County, in 1839. He is descended on both his father's and mother's side from ancestors who have had their home in America for nearly two hundred and fifty years. Receiving a liberal education at the University of Pennsylvania and at the New York State and National Law School, graduating in the class of 1860 with the degree of LL. B. Gen. Osborne in 1860, at the age of 22 years, was admitted to practice at the Luzerne County bar, having also studied in the office of Hon. Charles Denison. Within a few months Osborne enlisted, and shouldered his musket as a private in Co. E, 8th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. Among his comrades were E. H. Chase, Esq., and Hon. D. L. Rhone. Gen. Osborne speedily came into notice for his energy and faithfulness, and the next year was authorized to recruit a company which was mustered in with himself as captain. He won many honors while with the Army of the Potomac, was commissioned major of his regiment, and after the surrender of Lee he was appointed judge advocate on account of his recognized legal ability. He was the principal in drawing up and prosecuting the charges against the fiend Capt. Wertz, who starved to death so many union prisoners at Andersonville. At the successful termination of this trial he resigned his military honors and returning to Wilkes-Barre resumed his legal practice.

When the National Guard was organized 1871, Mr. Osborne was appointed Major General of the Third Division, occupying the north eastern portion of the State.

About this time a miner named Kearns was accused of the murder of two men during the strike troubles. He was brought to trial and the case became famous through Gen. Osborne's able and successful defence of the prisoner. As commander of the two regiments of National Guard sent into the striking region at Susquehanna in 1871 Gen. Osborne displayed such firmness and good judgment that all collisions were

avoided and all property fully protected. General Osborne was chosen commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic, in 1883; and was elected Congressman-at-Large to the Forty-ninth Congress in 1886 receiving 478,240 votes against 401,042 votes for W. H. H. Davis, Democrat, 9,684 votes for Atwood, Greenbacker, and 10,471 votes for Black, Prohibitionist. The vote of Gen. Osborne was the largest ever cast for any candidate in Pennsylvania, and exceeded Blaine's by 2,538.

## STATE SENATE.

The following sketch of Senator Williams is reprinted from the RECORD of Sept. 20, 1884:

Morgan B. Williams, the Republican candidate for the Senate in this district, was born in Rhandirmwyn, Carmarthenshire, South Wales, Sept. 17, 1831. In March, 1855, he left the land of his birth, bound for Australia, where he made considerable money working about the gold mines of that rich country. In 1861 he started for Soranton, where he lived until 1865, when he came to Wilkes Barre and has been here ever since. From 1865 till 1877, a period of twelve years, he was the inside foreman at the Hollenback shaft. His employer, Charles Parrish, Esq., states that he was one of the very best bosses ever employed by him, and the miners, loaders and drivers, who worked under him stand ready to testify to the humane and honorable manner in which he always conducted the inside workings of the Hollenback mine. Those who are acquainted with the history of the Whip poor-will mine, now known as the Red Ash, are well aware that for years it stood idle, owing to the fact, that it was known as a condemned property. Mr. Williams did not believe in this imputation, and for the faith that was in him gave his reasons to the owners of the estate. An arrangement was made at once by which the property could be worked. Mr. Williams risked all that he had in it, and on receiving the aid and encouragement of the Parrishes, opened up the mine in 1878 in first-class shape. Success followed him in every move he made, and, as the result of his foresight and experience, he is to-day the largest stockholder in one of the most productive collieries in the Wyoming Valley. The Red

Ash mine is noted for its excellent fuel, big shipments and fine management.

Mr. Williams was the first citizen of Wilkes-Barre who invested money in real estate on Brewery Hill. The books of the late Augustus C. Laning prove the truth of this statement.

In 1872 he was elected school director from the Third Ward and in 1888 was chosen councilman-at-large from the Sixth, Eighth and Ninth Wards. Thus it is seen that in the progress of the city Mr. Williams has always been active and earnest. He has been a resident of the city for sixteen years, and in all that time his character has been above reproach. Those who know him best yield him the honor due a careful, industrious, honest and moral man. From his boyhood he has earned his bread by the sweat of his brow. When he was but sixteen years of age his father died. He was the oldest of seven children at the time. Those who have been compelled to support a widowed mother and younger brothers and sisters must know the responsibility is not a light one—such a condition of life requires a good heart and an unselfish regard for the blood that is thicker than water. Although doomed to hard work and the influences surrounding long hours of toil, Mr. Williams found the inclination and the time to improve his mind. He has read, conversed and studied until to-day he is well versed in the history of his adopted country, and in perfect sympathy with the spirit of its institutions. Always being identified with our mines and mining, he appreciates the wants of the workmen. At Harrisburg he will maintain the integrity of the tariff, and insist that his vote and voice shall ever be recorded against free trade and its delusions. He is not in sympathy with any sham revenue reform, which calls for incidental protection, or a tariff for revenue exclusively; he is an out and out tariff man and in perfect accord with the platforms adopted at Harrisburg and Chicago. A man who sprang from the lower walks of life, and one who has earned a competency by industry and economy, is the Republican candidate for the Senate in the Twenty-first District. The those who take pride in honoring useful and deserving citizens vote for Morgan B. Williams next November.

#### DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

Capt. Alfred Darte was born in Dundaff, Susquehanna County, Pa. His father, Alfred Darte, now deceased, was a lawyer at Carbondale, for many years and was twice elected judge of the mayor's court of that city. His grandfather, Elias Darte, was a native of Bolton, Conn., and with six of his brothers, was a soldier in the revolutionary

war, he being wounded in the attack upon Fort Griswold. Mr. Darte's maternal grandmother, Mary Curran, was a native of County Cork, Ireland. His mother was Anna E., daughter of Dorastus Cone, of Ulster County, New York. The Cone family were from Connecticut. Capt. Darte was educated in the common schools and at Wyoming Seminary, where he met and afterwards married his wife, Caroline Sealy, a native of Kingston and a graduate of the Seminary. He studied law with his father and was admitted as soon as he was old enough. During the war he was first lieutenant of Co. K, 25th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry in the three months service, the regiment in which were the first soldiers in Washington from any State. When the three months men were discharged he at once began recruiting another company for three years, and on the 18th of August, 1861, was commissioned second lieutenant of 'M' Co., 4th Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was in 1863 promoted to captain of the company. He remained in the army until the 19th of September, 1864, when he was discharged for disability arising from wounds received in action at Trevilian Station, Va., June, 1864. In 1879 Mr. Darte was elected district attorney of Luzerne County on the Republican ticket by a majority of 2,057 over J. T. Lenahan, the Democratic candidate, (brother of his present opponent) and 3,578 over James Bryson, the Labor Reform candidate. He performed the duties of the office during his time in a manner which won the admiration of all good citizens, and was above criticism. There has never been a time when the laws of the Commonwealth were more vigorously enforced, without fear or favor, or with greater intelligence and integrity, than under Capt. Darte's administration.

In local matters he is the good citizen, taking an active part in the public affairs of the borough of Kingston, and is justly looked upon as one of the "town fathers," and does not scorn to serve the public in any capacity required of him.

#### PROTHONOTARY.

Christopher Wren, the candidate for prothonotary, was born at Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., Pa., 35 years ago. He was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania, and at the age of eighteen went into his father's foundry and learned the trade of iron molder, at which he worked for about ten years. Seven years ago he went into the insurance and real estate business, and by energy perseverance and strict attention to business he has successfully established himself at his home in Plymouth. Mr. Wren is a son of Capt. John Y. Wren, and has lived at Plymouth nineteen years.

He is a whole souled companionable young man, a good musician, an active member of a wide social circle and highly popular among all classes. His candidacy adds decided strength to the ticket.

#### CLERK OF THE COURTS.

In the RECORD of September, 1886, at which time Mr. James was put in nomination and afterwards triumphantly elected, appeared the appended sketch:

William P. James is a well-known citizen of Hazleton and his nomination will prove eminently satisfactory, not only to the Republicans of the lower end, but to the party throughout the county.

Mr. James was born in Hazleton in 1851. In his youth he was employed as a breaker boy in the old upper or Hazleton mines, where his father was employed as boss. Unlike many of our youth, young James did not waste his time in idleness, but devoted every spare moment to study, and learning something which would be useful to him in after life. At an early age he entered Pardee & Co.'s general store as a clerk, and by his industry, courteous ways and gentlemanly conduct soon won the confidence and respect of his employers and all who came in contact with him. He remained with Pardee & Co. about eight years. About the year 1868 Mr. James accepted the position of deputy postmaster at Hazleton, under his father, James James. He continued to hold this office during the last four presidential terms and the nominee, during this period, held the position of chief assistant, discharging the duties faithfully and well. Some years ago Mr. James was prostrated with a sunstroke and for a long time suffered from its effects. While it did him no injury mentally he still suffers physically from the prostration.

William P. James has a character for honesty, uprightness and fidelity to friends which may be envied by many of his fellow men.

He has been an active worker in the local Republican ranks. He is deservedly popular among all classes at his home.

He is the strongest candidate that could be named for the office, and his election on the second Tuesday of November is already assured.

#### JURY COMMISSIONER.

Wilson Long is a native of Luzerne County, having been born in Ross Township in 1838 and his father, Joseph Long, was a prosperous farmer in that township. The nominee is a farmer and carpenter. He has held the several offices of trust in his township government and stands well with his community. He is an old soldier. He enlisted in the 7th Pennsylvania Reserves in May, 1861 and served all during the war,

having been mustered out March 1, 1865. At the battle of the Wilderness he was captured by the enemy and was a prisoner in Andersonville and Florence for period of eight months. He is a brother of Letter Carrier I. P. Long, of Wilkes-Barre, and of Thomas Long, of Harvey's Lake, also a cousin of T. A. Long, of Sweet Valley. Mr. Long will make an excellent jury commissioner.

#### The Democratic Nominees.

As the RECORD is a paper which shines for all, Democrats as well as Republicans, we take pleasure in presenting brief biographical sketches of the gentlemen placed in nomination by the Democratic Convention of Luzerne County on Aug. 14. The matter is condensed from the *Leader*:

#### HON. JOHN LYNCH.

John Lynch is a Yankee by birth. He was born at Providence, E. I., Nov. 1, 1848. His father was a native of County Cavan, Ireland, but came to this country in 1830 and died a citizen of this city in 1878, at the age of 75. Our Congressman was educated at the Wyalusing and Wyoming Seminaries, worked on his father's farm in Carbon County during summers and attended school winters. He studied law with ex-Judge Harding and was admitted in September, 1865. He was chief clerk for Sheriff Putebaugh, the year following, was register of wills from '67 to '70, councilman-at-large from '71 to '74 and City Attorney in '78 and '74. He was married Jan. 24, '77 to Mary Cecilia, daughter of Patrick Lenahan, sister of the present district attorney. He accepted the nomination for Congress two years ago, receiving a majority in this county of 2,361, and in the whole district of 650.

#### JOHN H. JACOBS.

John H. Jacobs, the nominee for Prothonotary, was born in Germany, August 26th, 1841. He came to this country in 1856 and learned the confectionary trade with his brother at Tamaqua. He afterward went to Pottsville and worked with another brother for a time, after which he went to Philadelphia to learn the bread making trade.

In 1860 in company with his brother John he made a trip back to his native land, returning in June the same year. After working awhile for his brother in Danville, Mr. Jacobs returned to Pottsville and was married in September 1861, to Miss Clara B. Baur, daughter of Dr. Baur, of Tamaqua where, in the spring of 1863, he bought out a Mr. Kline and started in business for himself. But the war breaking out about that time he shouldered his gun in defense of the Union, leaving his business in care of his wife. Returning from the

war with an honorable discharge from Gov. Curtin he continued the business he had established until 1870, when he sold out and removed to Hazleton. Here he has since been engaged in the bakery and confectionery business, which he has carried on very successfully.

**JAMES L. LEHAHAN.**

James L. Lehanan, the candidate for District Attorney, is thirty-two years of age. He was born in Plymouth Township, (his mother also having been born in this county), on the fifth of November 1856, the day on which James Buchanan was elected president. Patrick Lehanan, the father of James, came to this country from Ireland in 1844, and first settled at Appalachiecola, Florida. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and after leaving Florida opened a store at Buttermilk Falls, Wyoming County. He came from there to Jenkins Township, this county, in 1850, remained there until 1860, when he opened a business in Wilkes-Barre. Here James attended the common schools and was known as an especially bright studious boy. Later he was a student in Prof. Kingman's academy, and from there he went to the College of the Holy Cross at Worcester, Mass., and finished his education there. He immediately began reading law and was admitted to the bar when he was 21 years of age. He applied himself studiously to his profession and soon built up a profitable business.

**ALFRED McHENRY.**

Alfred McHenry, the nominee for clerk of the courts, is a typical American, his parents being of Scotch extraction, and was born at Greenwood, Columbia County, Pa., on the 10th of September, 1838. He is therefore 50 years of age next month.

In 1858 he went to Cambra, Luzerne County and commenced learning the blacksmith trade with Elisha Meyers. After completing his trade he went into the business for himself. At this time, Alfred being the oldest of a family of eight children, much of the care of the household devolved upon him, and through his efforts his brothers Montraville and Thomas were sent to college and given a medical education. Both are now successful physicians. Two other brothers are in business at Benton, Columbia County. Mr. McHenry was married to Miss Sarah Davis, of Benton, Columbia County, shortly after embarking in business for himself. By industry and economy, he has prospered unusually well in his undertakings, and is now the owner of two fine farms which he managed in connection with his blacksmithing and livery business.

**P. H. KELLEY.**

P. H. Kelley, the candidate for jury com-

missioner, was born in West Pittston and is about 30 years of age. He is at present in the cigar business in Pittston, at which he has been engaged during the past two or three years. He is a moulder by trade and spent a considerable portion of his life in that work, but has also worked in the mines.

**W. H. HINES.**

The *Leader* did not have any use for a sketch of Mr. Hines, nominee for the Senate, so we append one, taken from Kulp's book:

William Henry Hines was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., March 15, 1854. He first settled in Brooklyn, N. Y., and finally removed to Hanover Township, in this county, where his father now resides. He was educated in the public schools of Brooklyn and at Wyoming Seminary. He was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County, June 6, 1881. In 1878 Mr. Hines was the Labor Reform candidate for the State Legislature, in the Third Legislative District, and was elected. In 1880 Mr. Hines was again a candidate for the Legislature in the same district, but was defeated by James George, Republican. In 1882 Mr. Hines was again a candidate for the same position, but this time as a Democrat, and was elected. In 1884 Mr. Hines was the Democratic nominee for State Senator in the Twenty-first Senatorial district, but was defeated by Morgan B. Williams, Republican.

**THE LEGISLATIVE NOMINEES.**

*Biographical Sketches Giving Interesting Information—One a Lawyer, Another an Editor, a Third a Business Man.*

THE RECORD takes pleasure in laying before its readers brief biographical sketches of three of the four Assembly candidates put in nomination at the District Conventions on August 7.

**LIDDON FLICK.**

The nominee in the First Legislative District, comprising the City of Wilkes-Barre, is Liddon Flick, Esq. The appended sketch of him appears in Mr. Kulp's book:

Liddon Flick was born in Wilkes Barre Oct. 23, 1859. His early education was at the public schools in this city. After two years spent at private school in preparation for college, he entered the freshman class at Princeton in September, 1878, graduating therefrom in June, 1882, receiving the degree of B. A. Having determined upon the study of law, he took the prescribed course at the law school of Columbia College, New York city. From there he graduated in June, 1884, receiving the degree of LL. B., *cum laude*. After a year spent in the office of ex Judge Lucien Birdseye, he was admitted to the New York city bar in January,

1886. Later he returned to Wilkes-Barre to look somewhat after his father's interests and to practice his profession. After spending the required six months in the office of Alexander Farnham, Esq., he was, on June 2, 1886, admitted to practice in the courts of Luzerne County.

Mr. Flick is bright, painstaking and conscientious—three qualities or attributes that generally win for their possessor the best fruits of any undertaking. His collegiate successes, as will be observed, have been of an unusual order. They are themselves something to be proud of, but their greatest significance arises from the fact that they indicate his superior fitness for the profession he has chosen. He is a great reader of books of all good kinds, and a student of the fine arts; and while these things have no necessary relation to the practice of the law, they are no small aid to lawyers, of whom this can be said: of two men each equally well read in the law and equally able in expounding it, the one whose general knowledge is the most extensive and varied has decidedly the advantage.

E. A. CORAY, JR.

In the Second District the nominee is thus spoken of by the *Pittston Gazette*:

Mr. Coray, the nominee, is one of our active young Republicans, having served on the County Committee and as chairman of the old Seventh Legislative District, and later of the present Second District committees, for several years past. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, and Keystone Academy at Factoryville, and is thirty years of age. He learned the printer's trade, and for the past eight years has been on the *Gazette* staff. He received the solid vote of the delegates from the upper end of the Second Legislative District, in the convention, and this unanimity, as well as the strong and enthusiastic support given to his delegates by the people in the Republican stronghold of West Pittston. Mr. Coray's home, is the best possible evidence of his merits and his popularity. He should be elected by a majority of from six to eight hundred.

W. F. ADAMS.

The nominee in the Fourth District is thus referred to by the Democratic paper of Hazleton, the *Plain Speaker*:

William F. Adams is one of the best known men in this region. He was born January 28, 1850, at Brownsville, Fayette County, this State. His father died when he was only 3 years of age. His father was an Englishman, and his mother a Welsh-woman. When the war broke out, though a boy, he enlisted as a drummer boy in the 3rd Pennsylvania Reserve Company, Col.

Sickles, commander. In the interval since the war he had a varied experience until he finally settled in Beaver Meadow in 1872. Since then he has been known as one of the most successful business men in this district.

"Blue Juniata."

In the *Youth's Companion* is a reprint of one of the prettiest of Pennsylvania songs, with some explanatory notes as follows:

Forty years ago every one knew the song 'Blue Juniata.' It was a simple song, but it took the popular fancy, and children were named for "Alfarata," the Indian girl, and so were boats; but the name was gradually changed to Alfaratta or Alfredda. The words ran:

Wild roved an Indian girl,  
Bright Alfarata,  
Where sweeps the waters  
Of the blue Juniata.  
Swift as an antelope,  
Through the forest going,  
Loose were her jetty locks,  
In waving tresses flowing.

Gay was the mountain song,  
Of bright Alfarata,  
Where sweep the waters  
Of the blue Juniata.  
Strong and true my arrows are  
In my painted quiver,  
Swift goes my light canoe  
Adown the rapid river.

Bold is my warrior good,  
The love of Alfarata;  
Proud waves his snowy plume  
Along the Juniata.  
Soft and low he speaks to me,  
And then his war-ory sounding,  
Rings his voice in thunder loud,  
From height to height resounding.

So sang the Indian girl,  
Bright Alfarata;  
Where sweep the waters  
Of the blue Juniata.  
Fleeting years have borne away  
The voice of Alfarata;  
Still sweeps the river on,  
Blue Juniata.

The Juniata is a wild and beautiful river formed by the union of three smaller rivers that rise in the Allegheny Mountains and unite near Huntingdon, Pa. The main stream is 150 miles long, and it flows through the picturesque Juniata Valley until it loses itself in the broad Susquehanna River about a mile from Duncannon. The Iroquois Indians used to live in this valley, and Juniata is an Iroquois word. It was sometimes written Choniata. The song was composed by Mrs. Marion Dix Sullivan, the wife of John W. Sullivan, of Boston. Mrs. Sullivan was born in 1803 in Boscowen, N. H., near the beautiful Merrimac River. She was the daughter of Colonel Timothy Dix and the sister of General John A. Dix, of New York. She died in 1860.

**WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**Beginning and Rise of What is Now an Important Feature of Our Municipal Life—Records Dug Out of Council Minutes.**

## II.

At meeting of April 18, 1818, it was "Resolved that Messrs. Dennis, Uip and Beaumont be appointed a committee to cause to be built and prepared a suitable building to receive and preserve the fire engine and appendages belonging to the same on the back of the academy lot if the trustees of the academy will admit thereof."

Also "Resolved that an order be drawn in favor of Perkins & Co. for three hundred dollars on account of the fire engine and delivered to the treasurer who has advanced the said sum."

[NOTE.—There is no record of any additional sum ever having been paid for this engine, thought in the petition to the Grand Jury it was represented that it would cost "with appropriate apparatus about seven or eight hundred dollars."]'

Also "Resolved that an order be drawn in favor of Andrew Beaumont for fifteen dollars, moneys by him advanced to John Harris on account of hauling the fire engine from Philadelphia.

At the next meeting, May 13, 1818, new council was convened. Messrs. Dennis, Tracy and Miner were appointed to superintend the erecting of the engine house.

At the meeting of June 19, 1819, it was "Resolved that an order be drawn in favor of John Barton for forty dollars for building an engine house."

On April 23, 1819, it was "Resolved that an order be drawn in favor of Joseph Dennis for eleven dollars for moneys by him advanced to John Harris on account of hauling fire engine from Philadelphia."

Also resolved that an order be drawn in favor of John Harris for \$8 48, balance of his account for hauling engine from Philadelphia.

This made a total of \$84 48, charged Mr. Harris for that service.

[NOTE.—It is said that this fire engine was formerly used on a vessel at Philadelphia for wetting the sails.]

Saturday evening, Dec. 18, 1819, Messrs. Slocum and Butler were appointed a committee to inquire into the expediency of digging a well, to apply to Joseph Dennis to do the same, and to make report at the next meeting of Council, which they did on the following evening as follows:

"That they have applied to Joseph Dennis and that he offers to go about digging the same immediately."

Whereupon Messrs. Scott and Slocum were appointed committee "to enter into a contract with Joseph Dennis to dig the

well at the place they think most advantageous to the public."

At the same time a committee was appointed, consisting of Collings and Butler, "to inquire into the state of the borough respecting fire buckets, who has and who has not buckets, ladders, etc., agreeable to an ordinance requiring them, and to report at a future meeting."

At the meeting of Dec. 27th, 1819, the committee for that purpose report a contract with Joseph Dennis for digging a well, etc.

At same meeting Messrs. Scott and Slocum were appointed a committee "to confer with the County Commissioners, and have them clear out the old well at the court house, or otherwise obtain from them such sum as they can, to be applied for the purpose aforesaid."

The last named committee reported on the 31st of December following "that they have applied to the commissioners for an appropriation towards a well, and that the commissioners are disposed to grant some aid, but are of opinion that the recommendation of the Grand Jury should be obtained for an appropriation."

Also the Fire Bucket Committee reported "a list of the houses having the required buckets, ladders," etc. Note—This list is lost.

At the same meeting the following petition of Samuel Maffet and George Chahoon was read:

"To the President and members of the Town Council of the Borough of Wilkes-Barre: The undersigned have been appointed a committee on behalf of the Wyoming Fire Company to confer with the Town Council on the subject of the more effectual organization of said company, and are instructed to make the following representations:

1st, That to render the engine of service in case of fire it is necessary, that an additional quantity of hose be procured, and which the company are of themselves unable to furnish, wherefore, they respectfully solicit the Town Council to procure from forty to sixty feet of good substantial hose, made of harness leather.

2d, We solicit the Town Council to procure one long ladder, say 40 or 45 feet, and one other ladder sufficient to mount the roof of any common building. These with the ladders to be furnished by the citizens will be sufficient.

3d, We request the Town Council to procure at least twenty-five fire buckets for the use of the engine, to be deposited at the engine house, either by a deposit of that number by the citizens, or in such other way as the council may think proper.

4th, We request to Town Council to appoint four active and discreet citizens to act as fire wardens, whose duty it shall be in case of fire to act in concert with the fire company in directing a supply of water and in such other measures as may be found necessary.

5th, We request the Town Council to procure one or more fire hooks, one of which to be thirty or thirty five feet and the other twenty or twenty five feet in length.

SAMUEL MAFFET, } Committee.  
GEORGE ORAHOO, }

Whereupon it was resolved to procure the hose, ladders, buckets and fire hooks as prayed for, and Gen. W. S. Ross, Col. Isaac Bowman, Joseph Sinton and David Scott were appointed fire wardens.

At January sessions, 1830, the following petition was presented to the Grand Jury of Luzerne County:

"The petition of Ebenezer Bowman, president of the Town Council of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, and on behalf of said borough, represents: That about two years since a fire engine was purchased by the said borough, towards the purchase of which the commissioners of the county, upon the recommendation of the Grand Jury, made a liberal contribution out of the county stock. That it has been ascertained that the wells around the Public Square and near the public buildings are entirely insufficient to supply the said engine with water in case of accidents by fire. That the Town Council have therefore thought it expedient to sink at least two large wells upon the Public Square and near the public buildings. That they have contracted for the sinking of one, which with the stones pump, etc., is estimated to cost not much less than one hundred dollars. That a number of public spirited citizens have organized themselves into a fire company, and in order that they may act efficiently it will be necessary for the borough to be at some considerable additional expense for hose, buckets, ladders, fire hooks, &c. All of which expense will be more than the said borough can at this time well bear, and as the principal part of the proposed expenditures is more particularly for the protection of the public buildings, in which the county is deeply interested, and praying the court to give the subject in charge to the Grand Jury, that they may recommend to the Commissioners the appropriation of one hundred dollars to the purposes aforesaid."

Whereupon the court referred the same to the Grand Jury, who returned it with the following endorsement: "The Grand Jury recommend one hundred dollars of the county money to be appropriated."

PHILIP MYERS, Foreman.

Wilkes-Barre, at this time, 1830, had a population of 733, and with the equipment and appropriations thus obtained there were no changes or improvements made in the Fire Department for the next ten years, though in March, 1823, "Mr. Beaumont and Mr. Bennett, a committee appointed by the fire company, appeared in Council with a view to impress them with the necessity of procuring an efficient engine."

They said they had received assurances from one of the commissioners to render assistance in case of need, and, on motion of Mr. Shoemaker, seconded by Mr. Hollenback, the consideration of the subject was postponed until the next meeting of Council.

Nothing was done at the next meeting of Council, nor indeed for more than two years thereafter, when the following petition was presented to the Grand Jury of Luzerne County, at August sessions, 1830:

"The petitions of the subscribers, citizens of said county, represents that in consequence of the increasing number of frame buildings, upon the bounds of Public Square in the borough of Wilkes-Barre, there is constantly danger of injury by fire to the public buildings there situate. The county has expended large sums in the erection of their public edifices, and every individual is deeply interested in the preservation of their public records. To guard them from danger is the duty of every citizen. The borough of Wilkes-Barre is at present provided with a small engine of power and force, however, not sufficient to be of much service where fire should reach as large a building as the court house or in any case of an extensive conflagration. It is believed that another engine would have caused (sic) from entire destruction the premises destroyed by fire in the said borough in February last. The petitioners therefore being satisfied that the citizens have not within their power the means to guard both public and private property from an injury to which it is daily liable, and being also aware that the county, from its sales of public lands and other sources, has now the command of adequate funds to justify the expense, would therefore ask the Grand Inquest, as guardians of the public weal and protectors of the public and private interests, to recommend to the County Commissioners to appropriate out of the county funds a sum sufficient to procure a large and suitable fire engine to be placed, when procured, in the immediate neighborhood of the public buildings."

In reply to this petition the Grand Jury recommended "that the sum of four hundred dollars be appropriated out of the county funds to procure a fire engine, provided the citizens of the borough of Wilkes-

Barre will add a sum sufficient to procure a good engine with all the necessary apparatus.

B. BARTY, Foreman.

Approved by the court, Aug. 5th, 1830.

D. SCOTT,  
JESSE FELL,  
WILLIAM S. ROSS,  
Judges."

Nothing more was done by the borough in this matter until the 18th of March, 1831, when the Council resolved to appropriate \$250 for the purchase of a fire engine.

Aug. 6th, 1831—"Whereas, It is doubtful whether the collector will collect taxes sufficient to make up the sum of \$450, upon which depends the granting of \$400 by the county for the purchase of a fire engine, and in order to secure the same by immediate attention to the subject, be it resolved in case that sum be not made up in three weeks from this time, that the president and treasurer be authorized to negotiate a loan on as reasonable terms as can be procured, of an amount sufficient to make up said sum, and on a credit sufficiently extensive that it may be repaid out of taxes to be collected."

Oct. 1, 1831.—Mr. Davidge and Mr. Laird appointed committee to draw funds from county commissioners, and to make arrangements with Joseph P. Le Clerc, Esq., with respect to purchasing an engine and to give him instructions on the subject.

Oct. 21, 1831.—J. W. Bowman, Esq., read a communication from Mr. Le Clerc on the subject of an engine and Mr. Bowman was requested to reply to it. At the same meeting it was resolved that an order be drawn in favor of the measure for \$650, being the amount appropriated for the purchase of an engine with a view to its being carried to Philadelphia by Dr. Christell, who is about to go down."

Nov. 5, 1831.—Mr. Beaumont having given the council satisfactory information in relation to the engine called the *Reliance*, and that it may be obtained for the sum of five hundred dollars, including one hundred feet of hose, it was resolved that the treasurer procure a check in favor of John Jordan, of Philadelphia, for the sum of six hundred dollars, of which five hundred dollars is to be applied to the purchase of said engine and one hundred dollars for 200 feet of hose to match that accompanying the engine."

Dec. 8, 1831.—Dr. Onristel, Mr. Davidge and Mr. Howe were appointed a committee to make any arrangements necessary to obtain the engine and to take charge of it when it arrives. Also the president and secretary authorized to draw an order on the treasurer for the freight bill for engine upon examination and ascertaining its amount.

Dec. 30, 1831.—Mr. Morgan, Dr. Onristel and Mr. Howe appointed committee to locate engine house and ascertain its cost, etc.

Feb. 21, 1832.—Resolved, "That when the funds in the hands of the treasurer shall amount to one hundred dollars the construction of the engine house be commenced and that the collector of taxes be instructed to make collection of taxes due with all possible speed."

Also Resolved, "That Mr. Barnes be authorized to take such boards as may be used for roof boards of the engine house and enclose a part of the market house for the temporary reception of the engine."

April 7, 1832—"The account of Gilbert Barnes presented for material and labor furnished and done for the engine house for eleven dollars and 90½ cents and an order drawn therefor."

Aug. 25, 1832—Resolved, "That a reward of fifty dollars be offered for the apprehension of the person or persons who cut the hose belonging to the fire engine in said borough, to be paid on conviction of said offender or offenders."

Aug. 30, 1833.—"A petition was presented from very many of the citizens of the borough—soliciting the erection of an engine house in connection with a set of weigh scales. Whereupon Resolved, that Gilbert Barnes, Jacob J. Dennis and A. Brower be a committee to draft a plan of a suitable house for the above purposes and submit their plan to the next meeting of Council."

Sept. 9, 1833.—Plans for scale and engine house submitted, but further consideration postponed.

Sept. 27, 1833.—Matter of engine and weigh houses was called up and resolved that the old engine house be converted into a scale house and that the scales be immediately built or as soon as funds sufficient for the purpose shall have accumulated in the Treasurer's hands." The Committee on Engine and Weigh House were continued and were instructed to obtain and prepare the lower room of the academy for the reception of the meetings of the town council and fire company during the coming winter. They also were instructed if possible to obtain a suitable site for an engine house.

Saturday, August 2, 1834.—A petition from many young men praying for privilege to have the small engine appropriated to their use, as junior fire company, was read and accepted. Whereupon a committee was appointed to consult with the *Reliance Fire Company* and ascertain their views on the matter in question, Hugh Fell, A. O. Laning and W. S. Bowman, committee.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 1834—Committee on small engine matter report as follows:



"Whereas, The Reliance Fire Company have delivered to the Town Council the small engine, and a petition has been presented by a number of young gentlemen, who are desirous that the Town Council should place said small engine in their hands. Therefore resolved that the small engine, "DAVEY CROCKETT," be placed under their control, and to be under the immediate control of a director selected by said young men from among the members of the Reliance Fire Company, who in case of fire shall be subject to the general control of the directors of the Reliance Fire Company."

#### A THRILLING WAR INCIDENT.

**Sentenced to Death—Escape from a Confederate Prison—Pursued by Blood-hounds.**

Rev. John H. Aughey, Presbyterian minister at Mountain Top, Luzerne County, had a remarkable experience during the late civil war. At the commencement of the war Mr. Aughey was a citizen of Mississippi. He was an open, earnest and decided opponent of the Rebellion from its incipency till its culmination. Mr. Aughey was compelled to appear before a vigilance committee. At this time he barely escaped with his life. Some time after this he received a summons to attend court martial to be put on trial for treason against the Southern Confederacy. In July, 1862, he was imprisoned in Tupelo, Miss. With a fellow prisoner he effected an escape, but being followed by cavalry and blood-hounds on the third day after escaping Mr. Aughey was caught and remanded to prison. He was now in prison, heavily ironed, the guards increased, greater vigilance enforced and the day fixed for his death by hanging. Mr. Aughey sent a request to General Bragg that his execution be by shooting instead of hanging. This was refused. The prison was located in the midst of the Confederate Army, which numbered at this time more one hundred thousand men. Mr. Aughey now determined to make an attempt at escape by getting rid of his chain and running by the guards at night. Through the aid of his fellow prisoners who numbered about one hundred, he succeeded in getting rid of his chain, though still retaining the bands upon his limbs, as they were too heavy to be removed. The prison was an old grocery house turned into a prison. The building was placed upon blocks. The planks were placed on perpendicularly and in some places the ragged edges did not quite reach the ground, so that apertures were left, by which Messrs. Aughey and

Malone made their first escape after raising a plank from the floor and getting under the building, but the floor had been spiked down and escape in that way was now impossible. On the Friday night preceding the Tuesday on which Mr. Aughey was to be hanged for treason against the Confederate States of America, he resolved to effect his escape or perish in the attempt. Just as the time had nearly arrived for making the attempt, Gen. Jordan, Beauregard's chief of staff, came into the building and examined Mr. Aughey's fetters. Finding them insecure, and learning that they had been tampered with, he ordered the chain on his ankles to be securely fastened. He also ordered him to be handcuffed and chained to a belt in the floor, early in the morning. Soon after this, a fellow prisoner informed Mr. Aughey that there was an aperture by the side of the steps in front of the prison through which he thought an escape might be made. Several agreed to assist in this attempt. Mr. Aughey and three prisoners went into the front enclosure. These three held the guards in front in conversation. Just at 10 o'clock pm. as the guards were being changed, Mr. Aughey slipped backward under the building and disappeared from view. He then emerged from the building on the north side, made his way through the great encampment and after almost incredible hardships and hair breadth escapes reached the Federal lines at Rienzi, near Corinth. His escape was discovered early the next morning. Two companies of cavalry with bloodhounds were started in pursuit of the escaped prisoner with strict orders to shoot him on sight. On the third day after the escape the hounds found the track.

Mr. Aughey climbed a tree and saw the hounds with the cavalry following. They came to a ravine which Mr. Aughey had just crossed, and went up the ravine. A negro had crossed Mr. Aughey's track and gone up the ravine. The hounds will always leave a white man's track for a negro's. They caught the negro on the afternoon of the next day, but Mr. Aughey was then far on his way toward the Federal lines, which he reached in a very enfeebled condition, and after many almost miraculous escapes.

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Mr. Aughey climbed a tree and saw the hounds with the cavalry following. They came to a ravine which Mr. Aughey had just crossed, and went up the ravine. A negro had crossed Mr. Aughey's track and gone up the ravine. The hounds will always leave a white man's track for a negro's. They caught the negro on the afternoon of the next day, but Mr. Aughey was then far on his way toward the Federal lines, which he reached in a very enfeebled condition, and after many almost miraculous escapes.

#### Bibliography of Wyoming.

EDITOR RECORD: Part 2 of the "Bibliography of Wyoming," which has been waiting publication for a year past, contains all the titles so kindly given by your correspondent, "W. A. W." with one exception. I will be glad to receive any titles not in Part 1. It is better to have the same titles twice than to have them omitted.

HORACE EDWIN HAYDEN.

## A LIVING WONDER.

**A Jointless Man—His Bones Welded Together—Motionless for Thirty-one Years—The Most Curious Case Known to Medical Science.**

It has been announced several times through the *Record* that Jonathan Bass, the "ossified man," would be exhibited in Wilkes-Barre for the edification of the medical fraternity and the instruction of the public. He arrived here August 23, and a considerable number of physicians and newspaper men visited him by invitation. A strange and wonderful sight they saw, too. On a couch reclined a man of spare, light bearded face, full rounded forehead, bald, and with large, deep sunken eyes. One notices at a glance his extremely attenuated frame, his arms not larger than those of a boy of ten, his limbs, bare from the knees down, similarly slender. The greatest peculiarity noticeable is that the fingers and toes are boneless and flabby. His left hand is boneless to the wrist. The only exception to this condition is the great toe of his right foot, which is normal. As he lies there, motionless as death, the attendant explains the most wonderful feature of the case, the total absence of joints in any portion of the man's body. Not the slightest motion exists in neck, spine, arms or legs. From the tip of the one rigid toe to the head he is like a solid frame.

The flesh of his body and limbs, though spare, is natural, the skin soft and warm. Sensation is acute in all parts of the body. The attendant putting a hand under one elbow, turns his patient over as though he was a board. Placing one hand under the neck, the patient is "up-ended" or raised to his feet as one would a stick of timber. The strange being thus balanced clears his throat and in a strong voice sings a verse of a ditty, in which he terms himself the "solid man of the town." His articulation is good, though his jaws have been rigidly locked for years.

The history of the case is highly interesting. He is 57 years of age. At the age of 16 he was a bright, industrious, ambitious boy, a fine penman and expert accountant. By exposure to the weather he contracted inflammatory rheumatism, beginning in his feet, and soon a stiffening of the joints was noticed. Gradually the stiffening involved one joint after another till in 9 years all were rigidly locked, and he was placed upon the couch which he has occupied for 22 years. Being disabled from all other occupations, for 18 years he read almost constantly, destroying his eyesight. In his affliction he was cared for by his brother, a farmer, who refused all advances of showmen, who offered great sums for the privilege of exhibiting the strange phe-

nomens he presents. A year ago the brother died, leaving a wife and several daughters, with his farm heavily encumbered by a mortgage. The patient, Jonathan Bass, who had hitherto avoided all publicity, determined to do what he could in aid of those who had for so many years cared for him. He started out on the tour he is now making and strange to say is making more money in a month than his brother did from his farm in a year.

With his great affliction upon him the invalid is of a bright cheerful disposition possesses a fine mind, well stored with knowledge from his much reading, and he loves a joke at his own expense or that of a visitor.

From long lying in one position the flesh his limbs has become flattened. No other result is noticed the skin being intact and healthy. The only voluntary motions he yet possesses are the power of shaking his whole body by a vigorous twitching of the skin, and the power to hold in the deformed fingers of his right hand a peacock feather, with which he drives away the flies from his face. The nails of his left hand have been allowed to grow for many years, and have attained a length of 11 to 12 inches, curling and twisting in curious forms. Since his affliction he has decreased in weight from 160 pounds to 75.

Mr. Bass is from Niagara County, N. Y., and his manager is Mr. F. E. Latta, for 15 years his next neighbor.

The physicians who visited the curious being were much interested in the various phases of his case, and made minute examinations, plying the invalid with questions which he answered cheerfully and intelligently.

## A Paper for Teachers.

No. 2, of the *Student*, published at Scranton, E. N. Davis and T. G. Osborne, has reached the *Record* office. The contained matter is good, though the press work is a little crude. It promises to be a valuable help to teachers, and the subscription price is 50 cents a year. An interesting article in No. 2 is an extract from Hon. J. P. Wickersham's "History of Education in Pennsylvania," in which he describes the zeal for education displayed by the Connecticut settlers in the Wyoming region.

## An Aged Minister.

Rev. Theophilus Jones, of this city, is probably the oldest minister in the State, and is still in the work. Mr. Jones is 79 years of age, was baptized in June, 1827, and was a member of a Christian church 61 years last June. He was ordained a minister in 1830, and is consequently 58 years in the ministry. He is the father of our lawyer-poet, D. M. Jones, of this city.

**THE GEODETIC SURVEY.**

**A Work of Great Magnitude Now in Progress, and a Party of Scientists at Penobscot Peak—The State and the Nation Interested in the Results—Measuring 40-Mile Lines by Scientific Methods.**

Nearly all readers of the RECORD are familiar with the ride eastward from this city over the Lehigh Valley and the L. & S. railroads. They can readily recall the devious windings by which the roads climb to the mountain top and the glorious panorama that lies spread in the valley which they have just left. So attractive is the sight that few lift their eyes to note the fact that above the stations of Fairview and Penobscot, where the two roads cross the summit and each other, there rise mountain peaks which reach an altitude many hundred feet higher than that attained by the railroads. Directly to the north of Fairview rises the highest of these peaks, which has been christened Penobscot. It is 500 to 700 feet higher than the station and, as might be supposed, affords a commanding view of the entire region for many miles on every side.

From the railroad station an observer will notice that the summit of this peak is at present crowned with an odd looking structure in the form of a lofty tripod constructed of rough timbers. Closer observation will reveal the fact that at the foot of the tripod are erected two small canvas tents. As a single glance shows the spot to be unfitted for a camping place, the sight of these structures is likely to arouse some curiosity as to their purpose. Inquiries concerning them having reached the RECORD office, a representative was sent to investigate as to their nature and use.

It is found that the mountain peak has been selected by the U. S. Geodetic and Coast Survey Corps as one of their stations in making a survey of this State. The reporter found the station in charge of Prof. F. Walley Perkins, an officer of the second rank in the service and one of the most skilled and experienced scientists employed in this branch of the government service. Prof. Perkins has been years in the service and has assisted in the coast survey from Maine to Florida. His last 10 years have been spent in a survey of the southern coast. Prof. Perkins is assisted in his work by L. H. Barnard, Professor of Civil Engineering in the Pennsylvania State College. Prof. Barnard is also well known throughout the State for his scientific attainments. The work being done is that of covering the state with a series of primary triangulation. Stations are selected on the highest peaks, 20 to 40 miles apart through-

out the entire state and by scientific methods, through painstaking observations and amazing accuracy of measurement, the exact distance from one of these points to another is determined. The gentleman in charge at Penobscot peak kindly accompanied the RECORD man to the station on the summit, where the work was explained in a most interesting manner. The magnificent prospect from the mountain top repays one for the climb up an excellent bridle path recently constructed, and a glance through the powerful telescopes used in the work brings distant objects into close view. Prof. Perkins explained that Penobscot peak is the centre of a group of stations selected by the Survey officers for their work. The surrounding stations were pointed out one after another, each a sharp peak or conspicuous elevation on the distant horizon. To the northeast lay Pimple Hill; farther south Knob Hill and Bear's Head; in the south west lay Catawissa station and farther around the circle lay Moonie Mountain near Tunkhannock, Miller Mountain and Bald Mountain. At present the engineers are taking observations on these peaks: They have at Penobscot Station surveying instruments of the most wonderful precision, with which observations are daily made and the angles lying between one station and another are measured over and over again. The Coast Survey instrument in use, a theodolite, has on it a ten inch circle which by scientific methods is divided into inconceivably small parts. The observer directing its telescope towards one station, then turning it towards the next, is able to determine the included angle with wonderful accuracy. In making these observations it is necessary to have at each station a signal that can be readily seen. For this purpose an assistant is stationed on each peak, who from 10 o'clock in the morning until sundown, by means of mirror throws a beam of sunlight towards the observer at Penobscot Station. Of course an overclouded sky at any station or cloud or mist intervening prevent observation on that point, and so wide is the range of country covered that it is rare indeed that all the stations are in sight at once. It is strange sight for the observer at his lonely station on the mountain, to look off toward the several distant peaks and see from each a baleful gleam of light directed upon him. Prof. Perkins relates that in the far west where signal men are sometimes stationed for months on some lonely peak, miles distant from any other human being, a strange nervousness seizes them. At times it becomes necessary for the observer at the central station to communicate with the signal man by a system of flash signals, and so uncanny is the sen-

station produced that the lone signal man dreads to receive a communication and begs to be spared the infliction.

The triangles which are now being measured are but a part of a system which started on the shores of Chesapeake Bay. At the starting point a base line was measured with the greatest possible accuracy, and from this all the distances between stations have been calculated. The system of triangulation starting near Cape Hatteras, extends north over Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, to Lake Ontario. It is evident that a work of this magnitude cannot be done by the individual States. For this reason it is undertaken by the general government which essays to cover each State by a system of primary triangulation as it is called. If the lines reaching from peak to peak were drawn on the map they would show a great network of triangles of which the peaks are the corners. The triangles thus measured serve as starting points from which the several States can complete a minute survey of their own territory. In fact a part of this work is done by the government surveyors, who daily make hundreds of observations on church steeples, public buildings and other prominent land marks, and thus determine their exact distance and direction, from the point of observation and from one another. Such information is of incalculable value to the local surveyor or other official, and is determined with much greater accuracy than could be obtained in any other way.

Besides the local value of the work being done, there is a scientific value which is quite as important. For example, when the system of triangles is completed from Chesapeake Bay to Lake Ontario, the mathematicians can calculate the exact distance from one extreme point to the other. This covering so great a scope of country from north to south, affords accurate data from which to calculate the size and exact form of the earth. This information is of great value to every navigator who crosses the ocean, and to every merchant who trusts his wares to an ocean going vessel.

When such great interests are at stake only the greatest conceivable accuracy is permitted. To check their work and ascertain its correctness, various tests are made from time to time. As an example they may set up two signals in this valley, say one mile apart. Observations are made and the distance is calculated. Afterwards the distance is actually measured with all possible care and if the two results differ by more than one-tenth of an inch, the work of this entire region must be gone over again, an error of 1 in 800,000 being the limit allowed.

The gentlemen in charge of Penobscot station are wonderfully genial and courteous and their sociability combined with their ready stores of information make an hour spent in their company a rare treat. Prof. Barnard is a co-worker at the State College, with Prof. Frear who has charge of the Agricultural Department, and who is a son of Rev. Dr. Frear, of this city.

#### At Half Mast for Sheridan.

As rain laden roses droop low on the stem,  
So droopeth to-day Columbia's fair Gem,  
'Neath a cloud-burst of grief! The Flag at half  
mast,  
With heart-breaking news from Nonquitt, at  
last!  
All suddenly shrouded in sorrow, the while  
'Twas trembling with rapture 'neath Sheridan's  
smile!

Like the wife of his bosom kneeling down when  
he died,  
And the comfort-giving angels who knelt at her  
side,  
So the Flag of his Country bends low over him;  
With a pride in its bosom that tears cannot dim,  
That swells its bright folds, till they glisten and  
gleam.  
Like the fond smile of love in a sorrowful  
dream!  
Like a dream seems his death—and so cruel the  
while  
The sunshine of hope came with Sheridan's  
smile.

O Banner beloved! in the depths of thy blue  
Glassing deeds that are golden forever anew;  
The god in his look, whose likeness they caught,  
In the one supreme moment with destiny  
fraught.  
In the crisis of battle, the crash and the strain,  
Unmatched in thy memory shall ever remain!  
Unveil, as of yore, our grief to beguile.  
The sunburst of triumph in Sheridan's smile.

Like Columbia, the beautiful Queen of the Free,  
The Flag bows in sorrow, on land and on sea,  
And sobs for a soldier as true and as brave  
As a Land ever loved, or a God ever gave;  
Its stars all in tears, and its stripes all aflame,  
While it wreathes this memorial 'round Sheri-  
dan's name:  
"No gem decks the Crown of the Union re-  
stored,  
Like the gleam of the glory of Sheridan's  
sword."

Admired of the world, by the Army adored!  
Let the tears of his comrades bejewel his  
sword;  
In the sheath of white roses that Peace has  
entwined,  
Be the blade that is blameless forever enshrined!  
Touch gently, kind winds, the draped Banner  
that weeps,—  
In the love of its bosom the worn hero  
sleeps.—  
Till it findeth, enfolding a heart without guile,  
Death's shadows have vanished in Sheridan's  
smile.

—D. M. Jones.

Wilkes-Barre, Aug. 8, 1868.

## IN ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

## Centennial of Methodism in the County of Luzerne A Historical Sketch of the Church

Rev. George Peck, D D, in his "Early Methodism" says: "Methodism is the name of that form of Evangelical religion which sprung up under the labors of the Wesleys and Whitfield during the former part of the eighteenth century. The first society or class was organized in the year 1789 This was the commencement of a movement which has resulted in a revival of Primitive Christianity throughout Protestant Christendom and its establishment in many pagan countries. Methodism is essentially aggressive and one of the laws of its being is progress. It had its origin in the University of Oxford, but the island of Great Britain could not long contain its energizing spirit and it soon passed over the Irish Channel. Having achieved miracles in England and Ireland, Methodism crossed the Atlantic and commenced its operations in America. Philip Embury, an Irish local preacher, commenced preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ in the city of New York in the year 1766. A small society was organized by Embury, and their meetings were held in a "rigging loft" in William Street until John Street church was erected in the year 1768 Robert Strawbridge, another Irish local preacher, emigrated to America and opened his mission as a preacher of the gospel in Frederick County, Maryland, about the same time that Embury commenced his labors in New York. From these two points the work of revival spread east, west, north and south, until the whole country was in a blaze. The work in America was reinforced from time to time by missionaries of Mr. Wesley's appointment until the Revolutionary War disturbed the relations of the two countries. Francis Asbury was one of these missionaries, and although several of them returned to England upon the breaking out of hostilities, he stood at his post until the fearful struggle was over and then identified himself for life with the country of his adoption. In 1783 the independence of the United States was acknowledged by the government of Great Britain, and peace established between the two countries; and in 1784 at the "Christmas Conference," the "Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States" was duly organized. The two points from which the light of Methodism radiated were in the neighborhoods of the Hudson and of the Chesapeake, but the rays soon met and commingled on the banks of the Delaware, the Susquehanna, the Mohawk, the St. Lawrence and the northern lakes. About four years after the organization of the

Methodist Episcopal Church a ray of the new light fell into the Wyoming Valley. As the enterprising were crowding into the famous and beautiful valley of Wyoming, Methodism crossed the mountains and commenced its work in Kingston. Here the first Methodist meetings were held, and here it was that Methodism as a form of Christianity and an element of religious power, commenced its triumphs in Wyoming.

The commencement of Methodism in Wyoming was not the fruit of missionary effort, or of the religious preachings of an authorized ministry, but the fruit of the efforts of a mere layman, and he was an humble mechanic.

Anning Owen came to Wyoming from New England with the daring spirits who emigrated about the commencement of the Revolutionary war. He was one of the handful of courageous men who were defeated and scattered by an overwhelming force under the command of Col. John Butler. In the battle he was by the side of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Carpenter. He stood the fire of the enemy and answered it, shot after shot, in such quick succession that the barrel of his gun became burning hot. "My gun is so hot that I cannot hold it," exclaimed the brave patriot soldier. "Do the best you can then," was the reply of his friend. A shot or two more and the day was lost. Owen and Carpenter fled to the river and secreted themselves under the cover of a large grape vine which hung from the branches of a tree and lay in the water. Roger Searl, a lad, followed them and the three lay in safety until the darkness of the night enabled them to gain the fort. They were a portion of the small number who escaped with their lives without having to swim the river. The place of their concealment was near the mouth of Shoemaker's Creek. While there fearful sights of barbarous cruelty in the river above pained their eyes and stung their souls to agony. They saw through the leaves Windecker, the tory, tomahawk Shoemaker and set his body afloat, and the mangled corpse of their friend and neighbor passed quietly by them carried slowly into the eddy by the current.

In the account which Mr. Owen often subsequently gave of his escape, he stated that, when upon the run he expected every moment to be shot or tomahawked and the terrible thought of being sent into eternity unprepared filled his soul with horror. He then resolved that if he should be killed he would fall on his face and, spend his last breath in prayer to God for mercy. He prayed as he ran and when he lay in the water his every breath was occupied by the silent but earnest prayer "God have mercy on my soul!" There and

then it was that he gave his heart to God and vowed to be His forever. He was spared and did not forget, as thousands do, the vows he made in the hour of his distress.

Mr. Owen returned to the East with the fugitives, but he was a changed man. He considered his deliverance from death as little short of a miracle, and that in it there was a wise and gracious design which had reference to his eternal well-being. He was now a man of prayer, possessed a tender conscience and indulged a trembling hope in Christ. In this condition Mr. Owen became acquainted with the Methodists. Their earnest and powerful preaching and the doctrine which they taught met in his heart a ready response. He was of an ardent temperament, and was never in favor of halfway measures in anything. He soon drank in the spirit of the early Methodists and was as full of enthusiasm as any of them. His religious experience became more deep and thorough, and his evidence of sins forgiven more clear and satisfactory. He now rejoiced greatly in the liberty wherewith Christ had made him free, and panted to be useful. In this state of mind Mr. Owen returned to Wyoming and settled among his old companions in tribulation. He was a blacksmith and commenced hammering out his fortune, as he supposed, between Kingstons village and Forty Fort, at the point where the highway crosses Toby's Creek.

Mr. Owen had no sooner become settled in Wyoming than he commenced conversation with his neighbors on the subject of religion and began with many tears to tell them what great things God had done for his soul. His words were as coals of fire upon the heads and the hearts of those he addressed and he soon found that a deep sympathy with his ideas and feelings was abroad and rapidly extending. He appointed prayer meetings in his own house. The people were melted down under his prayers, his exhortations and singing. He was invited to appoint meetings at other places in the neighborhood and he listened to the call. A revival of religion broke out at Ross Hill, about a mile from his residence and just across the line which separates the townships of Kingston and Plymouth. Great power attended the simple earnest efforts of the blacksmith and souls were converted to God. He studied the openings of Providence and tried in all things to follow the divine light. He was regarded by the young converts as their spiritual father and to him they looked for advice and comfort.

Mr. Owen, now considering himself providentially called upon to provide, at least temporarily, for the spiritual wants of his flock, formed them into a class. This was

in 1788. Most of the members of his little band residing in the neighborhood of Ross Hill, that point became the center of operations. This class was called the Ross Hill class until the old order of things passed away."

The members of the Ross Hill class were Anning Owen and wife, Mr. Gray and wife, Abram Adams, Stephen Baker and wife, Mrs. Wooley and Nancy Wooley. Subsequently came in Mrs. Ruth Pierce, Alice and Hannah Pierce, Samuel Carver and his father, and Joseph Brown, Captain Ebenezer Parrish, (who was the first Methodist class leader in Wyoming) and wife, and Darius Williams and wife. Mr. Owens subsequently received a regular license to preach, and he spent the balance of his life in the ministry. Among those who became Methodists in the early days were Hon. Benjamin Carpenter, one of the judges of Luzerne County, Christiana Johnson, who became the wife of William Russell, a daughter of Rev. Jacob Johnson; Benjamin Bidlack, who afterwards became a preacher; Calvin Wadhams, Abram Goodwin, Stephen Jenkins, who became a class leader; Colonel Nathan Denison, his wife and their daughter. (Colonel Denison and Betsey Sills were the first couple married in Wyoming, and the colonel commanded the left wing of the patriot forces on the occasion of the Indian battle.) Ashel Waller, who became a local preacher; James Sutton, Rev. Noah Wadhams, a Congregational minister and a graduate of Princeton, who became a local preacher; Jeremiah Coleman, Azel Dana, who was the first class leader in Wilkes-Barre; Comfort Carey, who succeeded Mr. Dana as a class leader; Elijah Inman, Gilbert Carpenter, who became a local preacher; Charles Harris, Reuben Williams, the wife of Capt. Ransom, the widow of Timothy Pierce, who was killed in the Indian battle; the wife of Abel Pierce, (one of her daughters married Lord Butler, son of Col. Zebulon Butler,) the wife of Putnam Catlin (who was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County, May 27, 1787, and father of Geo. Catlin, the celebrated artist,) the Widow Weeks, who had three brothers killed in the Indian battle, and many others. It may be proper to remark here that Anning Owen died at Ulysses, Cayuga Co., N. Y., in 1814. As showing the growth of Methodism in this county we herewith give the churches in Luzerne County now and the number of members in each:

Ashley .....	850
Beach Haven .....	202
Carverton .....	227
Conyngham .....	262
Dallas .....	190
Forty Fort.....	119

Hanover .....	188
Harveyville .....	248
Hazleton .....	414
Jeanesville .....	122
Kingston .....	370
Larksville .....	24
Lehman .....	245
Luzerne .....	230
Maple Grove .....	80
Mountain Top .....	110
Muhlenburg .....	175
Nanticoke .....	200
Parsons .....	108
Pittston .....	259
Plains .....	158
Plainsville .....	168
Pleasant Valley .....	78
Plymouth .....	457
Stockton .....	180
Pringleville .....	51
South Haberton .....	99
Shickshinny .....	311
Stoddartsville .....	118
Town Hill .....	272
Wanamie .....	148
West Hazleton .....	77
West Nanticoke .....	59
West Pittston .....	542
White Haven .....	140
Wilkes-Barre Central .....	500
Wilkes-Barre First Church .....	877
Wilkes-Barre Parrish Street .....	154
Wilkes-Barre Welsh Mission .....	80
Wyoming .....	172
Yatesville .....	45

Making a total of..... 8,650

Of the above there are 1,208 probationers.

At the time of the formation of the Ross Hill class the county of Luzerne embraced the counties of Bradford, Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wyoming. There are in the Sabbath school classes of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Luzerne County 8,329 scholars and 996 officers and teachers. There are also 26 union Sabbath schools in the county in which many Methodist scholars attend.

G. B. K.

Query.

PHILADELPHIA, July, 1888 — EDITOR RECORD: In the spring of 1768 the Moravian bishop, John Etwein, visited the Wyoming Valley. "On descending the Wayomik Mountain into the valley," he has recorded in his journal, "my Indian guide pointed out a large pile of stones, said to indicate the number of Indians who had climbed the mountain. It was the custom for each Indian to add a stone as he passed that way."

Further on he states: "At 2 pm. came to Wayomik and were hospitably entertained by a trader named Ogden. The Shawanosee have all left the valley and Susquehanna, and the only traces of them are their places

of burial in crevices and caves in the rocks, at whose entrances stand large stones painted."

Information is requested through the RECORD as to whether the pile of stones on the mountain and the painted stone entrances to the graves of the Shawanosee were known to the inhabitants of the valley as late as 1810.

JOHN W. JORDAN,  
Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1,800 Locust Street.

Nearly Forty-Four Thousand.

The size of our city, as well as its growth, is well shown by an examination of the new directory being distributed by J. E. Williams. It contains 15,824 Wilkes-Barre names, an increase of 3,075 over the directory of a year ago, and the book is 152 pages large. Mr. Williams finds that by multiplying the names in his directories by 2½, it gains a very close approximation to the actual population. This would make the population of the city of Wilkes-Barre and suburbs, not including Kingston and Ashley, 48,518, a gain of eight thousand in one year.

There are 5,546 new names not in last year's directory, and there have been dropped from last year's list 2,471 names.

In addition to Wilkes-Barre there is a directory of Ashley and Kingston and the work is out a month earlier than last year. The compiler hopes to improve even upon this prompt result, knowing that as most of the changes take place on the first of April a directory should appear as soon as possible after that date.

The book is well printed, the advertising is neatly displayed and the pages, though not entirely free from errors, are reasonably correct for so large a book.

Seven Old Settlers.

Seven men were gathered in front of Alderman Wesley Johnson's office on Wednesday afternoon. They were all young in action and appearance, but not so young in years. The youngest of the seven was 64 years old and the oldest was 75, and the sum of their ages was 489 years. The combined weight of the seven was 1,210 pounds. The ages were 72, 70, 68, 75, 64, 69 and 71 years, and the respective weights 160, 178, 160, 158, 230, 170, 168 pounds. They were engaged in reciting the experiences and incidents of former days with special reference to political campaigns. All but one were decidedly in favor of Harrison and Morton and pledged themselves to vote the Republican ticket. The gathering was purely accidental. The seven were Josiah Lewis, James D. Laird, Wesley Johnson, Adam Behee, Wm. Reith, James Henwood, Henry C. Wilson, the latter of Mt. Vernon.

**AN OLD WILKES-BARRE STORE.**

Some Bills and Letters that were Secured by the Rats in the Old Hollenback Building, Now Undergoing Demolition.

While the workmen were tearing down one of the stairways of the Hollenback building Tuesday, at corner of Market and River Streets, they came upon mice nest material sufficient to fill several bushel baskets. It was between the plastering and the floor and most of it was ruined by the teeth of the rodents, but quite a handful of almost whole papers were picked out of the wreck. They date back some 70 years, to about the time the house, one of the first brick buildings in Wilkes-Barre, was being erected.

The old rat-eaten papers are interesting as showing the trade of Wilkes-Barre at an early day, and what our fathers and grandfathers had to pay for the necessaries of life. They are mostly letters from John Stoddart, of Philadelphia, to Caleb Kendall, who managed a store for the former in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Stoddart, who was a Philadelphia merchant, had in 1815 erected a grain mill at Stoddartsville, on the Lehigh, at a cost of \$20,000, for the purpose of milling the surplus grain of Luzerne County and shipping it to Philadelphia. Some of the letters from Philadelphia were brought by private messenger, others bear the postmark and the postage is 12½ cents on each.

One bill of lading, dated Philadelphia, March 5, 1818, is sent by Frederick Nagle, of Philadelphia, consigned to Mr. Kendall, to be sold on commission for John W. Fowler, of Bath, N. Y. The latter was in frequent correspondence with the Wilkes-Barre store, and depended on it for much of the supply of his store in Bath. Under date of February 2, 1818, he consigns Mr. Kendall 4 barrels of whisky, at 75 cents per gallon. He says, "it is really good, such as you can recommend. Be good enough to send me some tobacco—all you have to spare, also some bombazett, which is in great demand here—also some pins. If the teamsters want any loading send me nails. Almost any article will sell here and now is the season to procure grain. Let me know where you want the arks landed so as, to accommodate you to discharge the cargoes. I am putting the wheat up in flour barrels."

Under date of Oct. 30, 1818, Mr. Stoddart sends Mr. Kendall an invoice of bombazett, referred to above, in black, brown, blue and crimson; a lot of fancy prints at 81 cents a yard and "plate" prints at 18 cents; also a dozen birdseye handkerchiefs at a dollar a

piece. The invoice is accompanied by this letter:

PHILADELPHIA, October 31, 1818.—M. O. KENDALL,—DEAR SIR: Annexd is Invoice of a Box of Dry Goods sent by Nagle. I would advise you to Take no money for Goods unless it is such you can purchase Grain with, as very little of the country paper will be taken at any Discount. Wilmington and Brandywine will not sell at 50 per Cent Discount and Elkton is about the same. So it appears as if nothing Can be got here only for Good Money. I am with respect your friend and servant

JOHN STODDART.

Some further references to local trade will be given in another article.

**Why?**

In the following original lines, Mr. Ryder speaks words which ought to bring cheer to all who are weary with life's unequal struggle, and who are disheartened at the advantages of more favored individuals:

Why do we sing, when others' songs  
Are far more sweet and tender?  
Why do we think, when other brains  
Still loftier thoughts engender?

Why do we strive, when in the race  
But few can be the winners?  
Why Virtue seek, while Fortune smiles  
Most sweetly on the sinners?

Why do we weep, while other hearts  
A deeper woe is rending?  
Why prize an independent mind  
When wealth lies in depending?

\* \* \* \* \*

If none but those who sweetest sing,  
Trilled forth in glad rejoicing,  
If none but those of loftiest minds  
Their earnest thoughts were voicing—

If we stood idly by to watch  
More favored mortals striving,  
And welcomed Vice that mammon's hand,  
Not God's, might do the striving—

If none did weep but those whose hearts  
Were plunged in deepest sorrow,  
And mankind bent the knee to-day  
That wealth might come to-morrow,

Then, songless, thoughtless, nerveless, we  
Decay's dull path would follow,  
And Vice in glad expectancy  
A nation's tomb would hollow.

—T. P. R.

**A Septuagenarian Harrisonian.**

WHITE HAVEN, July 30—EDITOR RECORD: I have been a reader of your paper ever since Wm. P. Miner printed it, and still take it. I lived in Wilkes-Barre in 1840 and voted for Gen. Harrison and Tyler too, and if I live till November I will vote for the grandson too. I will be 74 years old in November next.

CHAS. ALBERT.



## A ROLL OF HONOR.

## A List of the Soldier Dead, Over Whose Graves Tombstones Are to be Erected.

Mention has already been made in the columns of the RECORD that the county commissioners had given the contract for preparing suitable tombstones to mark the graves of veterans of the late war. The contract was awarded under the provisions of an Act of Assembly, which became a law over the veto of Gov. Pattison, May 12, 1885. Its full title is as follows:

"An Act authorizing and requiring the county commissioners of each county in the State to appoint a sufficient number of suitable persons in each township and ward of their county, at the expense of the county, to look after, bury, and provide a headstone for the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the late rebellion, or any preceding war, and shall hereafter die in their county, leaving insufficient means to defray the necessary burial expense.

Section 1 of this act provides that it shall be the duty of the county commissioners of each county in this State to appoint a sufficient number of suitable persons in each township and ward in their county, other than those prescribed by law for the care of paupers and the custody of criminals, to look after and caused to be buried, in a decent and respectable manner, in any cemetery or burial ground within the State, other than those used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, at an expense to their county not exceeding thirty-five dollars, the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the late rebellion, or any preceding war, and shall hereafter die in their county, leaving insufficient means to defray the necessary burial expenses; and the persons so appointed shall hold their offices at the pleasure of the county commissioners, and shall serve without compensation.

The persons so appointed are also directed to satisfy themselves as to the honorable discharge of each soldier, and collect all data regarding his service, death, occupation preceding demise, etc., and report the same to the county commissioners by whom a record is to be kept. Warrants shall then be drawn upon the county treasurer for the expenses incurred in the burial of each, not in any single case to exceed thirty-five dollars. It is also provided that upon the death of each soldier or sailor, a suitable headstone shall be placed at the grave, with a proper inscription, the cost of each not to exceed fifteen dollars, and to be paid by the county.

The records of the deceased veterans have been completed, up to date, and are to be found in the county commissioners' office. The provisions of the Act are so worthy of popular sympathy, and the prompt carrying out of the same is so commendatory, that the RECORD has been at some pains to collect as much information as possible regarding the names of those whose burial has been attended to by the county.

The roll of honor is a long one, and nothing could be more eminently fitting than that a stone should be placed above the resting places of each, upon the surface of which may be recorded such facts as shall ever call out the grateful remembrance of those who read, and serve as an example of patriotism to generations who shall follow.

## THE ROLL.

John Kearnst, private, 11th Infantry, Co. D. Honorably discharged from service Oct. 10, 1867. He met his death Oct. 27, 1865, by an explosion in the D. & H. Co. No. 2 colliery, having been employed as a mine carpenter. He is buried in Shupp's cemetery, Plymouth.

Michael C. Apt, corporal N. Y. Vol. Engineers, Co. E. Discharged May 27, 1863, died May 4, 1865. Buried in West Pittston.

Harman Sirles, private, 9th Pa. Cavalry, Co. D. Discharged Aug. 14, 1862, died May 12, 1865. Occupation, steamboat pilot.

Geo. Laphy, private, U. S. Artillery, Fourth Regt., Co. C. Discharged Jan. 19, 1864, died Nov. 30, 1865. Buried in Forty Fort Cemetery. For some time preceding death he was blind.

Wm. McNeillie, private, Pa. Vols., 96th Regt., Co. B. Discharged Oct. 24, 1864. Died Oct. 17, 1865. Miner. Buried in Laurytown, Carbon Co.

James Wingate, private, 28 Regt., Pa. Vols., Co. N. Discharged Nov. 19, 1861, died July 23, 1865, being found in a small creek at Beaver Brook. Supposed to have fallen in an epileptic fit. Buried in Hazleton.

Samuel F. Samies, private, 7th Regt., P. V. Cavalry, Co. H. Discharged Aug. 23, 1865, died Dec. 13, 1865. Buried in Plymouth Cemetery.

Jacob Burke, sergeant major, 149rd Regt., Pa. Infantry. Discharged June 12, 1865; died Jan. 22, 1866. Buried in Shupp's Cemetery.

Wm. Duckworth, private, 21st Regt., Pa. Vols., Co. C. Discharged March 17, 1865, died Dec. 21, 1865. Buried in Forty Fort.

Thomas F. Davis, private, 17th Regt., Pa. Cavalry, Co. K. Discharged May 30, 1865, died Feb. 1, 1866. Buried in Hyde Park. Had been partially supported by Ely Post for over a year preceding death.

Cornelius F. Burns, first lieutenant, 153rd Regt., Co. C, N. Y. Vols. Discharge cannot be found. Died Dec. 8, 1865. Buried in Jeansville.

Richard Fotheringill, sergeant 7th Pa. Cavalry, Co. F. Discharged Aug. 23, 1865, died Feb. 5, 1893. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Martin Gaghan, private, 17th Regt., Pa. Cavalry, Co. K. Date of discharge not known. Died Jan. 31, 1893.

Thomas J. Pearce, private, 50th Regt., Engineers N. Y. Vols., Co. F. Discharged Sept. 4, 1864, died Jan. 10, 1893. Buried in Huntington Township.

Charles W. Randall, private, Co. G, 67th Regt., Pa. Vols. Discharged Aug. 17, 1865, died Feb. 28, 1893. Buried in Plymouth.

David Wispall, private, Co. H, 80th Regt., N. Y. Vols. Discharged June 17, 1865, at Richmond, Va., died Feb. 20, 1893. Buried in Beaumont, Wyoming Co.

John Eshelman, Q. M. Sergeant, Co. M, 2nd Regt. Pa. Heavy Artillery. Discharged June 13, 1865, died Aug. 10, 1893. Buried in West Pittston Cemetery. Cared for previous to his death by Nugent Post 245, G. A. R.

Wesley Case, private Co. F, 8d Reg. Pa. Artillery. Discharged June 28, 1865, died March 4, 1893. Buried in Jackson Township.

Jonah Smith, private, Co. F, Independent Battery, Pa. Discharged June 26, 1865, died April 7, 1893. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Preston H. Saxon, private, Co. E, 6th Reg. Pa. Cavalry. Discharged in pension office, died April 13, 1893. Buried in Wyoming. Enlisted first for three months, then re-enlisted at two different times.

Frederick Gerstig, private Co. G, 8th Regt. Pa. Vols., also served in Co. G, 53th Regt. Discharged July 29, 1861, died June 5, 1893. Buried G. A. R. lot, Hollenback Cemetery. Death came suddenly from abdominal aneurism.

Michael Butler, private, Co. M, 11th Regt. Pa. Vol. Cav. Discharged Oct. 7, 1864, died July 7, 1893. Buried near Mill Creek.

Daniel Lewis, private, Co. C, 178th Regt. Pa. Drafted Vol. Discharged July 27, 1863, died Aug. 13, 1893. Buried in Forty Fort.

George Best, sergeant, Co. G, 52nd Regt., P. V. Discharged July 13, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C., died Feb. 13, 1893. Buried in Soldiers' Cemetery, Hazleton.

John Speole, private, Co. F, 53rd Regt., P. V. Drew a pension of \$4 per month, discharge not found. Died July 29, 1893. Buried in Beach Haven.

Mark Fisherhart, corporal, Co. D, 22nd Regt., colored troops. Mustered out Oct. 13, 1865, died Sept. 27, 1897.

Andrew Sorber, private, Co. C, 178th Regt., P. V. Discharged July 27, 1863, died Sept. 10, 1893. Buried in Hanover Cemetery.

Sextus E. Parsons, private, Co. B, 177 Regt., P. V. militia. Discharged Aug. 5, 1863, died Aug. 25, 1893. Buried in Trucks-ville.

Fletcher D. Yaple, private, Co. A, 52nd Regt., P. V. Discharged in December, 1865, died Nov. 15, 1893. Buried in New Columbia.

H. C. Harvey, private, Co. E, 203rd Regt., P. V. Discharged June 22, 1865, died June 1, 1893. Buried in Bloomsdale, Luzerne Co.

John Johnson, private, Co. A, 1st Regt., New Jersey Vol. Discharged June 29, 1865, died Dec. 9, 1893. Buried in Lehman Township.

Patrick Canole, private, Co. D, 9th Pa. Cavalry. Discharged July 13, 1865, at Lexington, N. C., died Oct. 6, 1893. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

John D. Eckert, private, Co. F, 84th Regt., P. V. Discharged Feb. 9, 1863, died March 12, 1897. Buried at Nanticoke.

Phillip Graham, private, Co. A, 175th Regt., N. Y. Vols. Discharged Dec. 27, 1865, died April 15, 1897. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Rufus McGuire, private, 46th Regt., Battalion Vt., Reserve Corps. Discharged Sept. 5, 1864, died April 14, 1897. Buried in Forty Fort.

Jacob S. Biefenberry, private, Co. D, 80th Regt., N. J. Vols. Discharged June 27, 1863, died April 3, 1897. Buried in Trucks-ville.

John Gilligan, private, Co. G, 52nd Regt., P. V. Discharged Nov., 1864, died April 8, 1897. Buried Church Hill Cemetery, Pittston.

Terence Gaffney, private, Co. H, 97th Regt., P. V. Discharged June 28, 1865, died April 25, 1897. Buried in Pittston.

John L. Long, private, Co. B, 199th Regt. Discharged June 23, 1865, died March 29, 1897. Buried in Pine Grove Cemetery.

Andrew J. Shonk, private, Co. D, 143rd Regt., P. V. Discharged June 12, 1865, died May 15, 1897. Buried in G. A. R. plot, Plymouth.

Peter Carney, private, Co. G, 77th Regt., P. V. Discharged Dec. 6, 1865, died May 9, 1897. Buried in Nanticoke. No family or friends could be found.

Matther W. Smith, corporal, Co. D, 8th Regt., P. V. Cav., transferred to Co. D, 16th P. V. Cav., July 24, 1865. Mustered out with company as sergeant, Aug. 11, 1865. Died Feb. 23, 1897.

William Blackman, private, Co. F, 203rd Regt., P. V. Discharged June 22, 1865, died July 6, 1897. Buried in Forty Fort.

Peter Andrus, private, Co. I, 67th Regt., P. V. Discharged July 28, 1861, died June 28, 1867. Buried in New Columbia, Columbia Co., Pa.

Joseph A. Wesley, private 18th Regt., P. Cavalry. Discharged May 28, 1865, died July 24, 1867. Buried in Forty Fort Cemetery.

Edward Shoemaker, private, Co. H, 11th Regt., P. V. Discharged July 1, 1865. Killed July 16, 1867, by premature explosion while tamping a rock hole at Lumber Yard Station near Hazleton. Buried in Hazleton.

Charles F. Trout, private, Co. F, 1st Regt., Pa. Rifles. Discharged Feb. 11, 1863, died Oct. 17, 1867. Buried in Freeland.

John L. Riker, private, Co. F, 141st Regt., P. V. Discharged June 29, 1865, died Dec. 24, 1867. Buried in Pittston.

Timothy Mahoney, private, Co. A, 38th Regt. N. Y. Vol. Inf. Died Jan. 4, 1868, buried in Hanover.

Daniel Deets, private, Co. I, 58th P. V. Died in poor house Jan. 23, 1868. Buried in Nanticoke.

James Smith, private, Co. I, 127th U. S. colored troops. Discharged Sept. 1865 in Texas. Died Jan. 26, 1868. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Wm. Hawk, private, Co. A, 67th Regt. P. V. Discharged Nov. 6, 1864. Died Nov. 9, 1867. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Jacob Memmy, private, Co. A, 143d Regt. P. V. Discharged June 12, 1865. Died Jan. 12, 1868. Buried in Hughesville, Butler Valley.

Bartholomew Coggins, private, Co. F, 7th Regt. Pa. Cavalry. Discharged on General Order No. 14, May 21, 1865. Died Feb. 16, 1868. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Wm. Bryant, private, Co. F, 7th Regt., P. B. V. Found dead March 16, 1868, and buried in Dallas Cemetery.

John Steits, private, Co. A, 13rd Regt. P. V. Discharged June 12, 1865, at Kewit Island, by General Order No. 770. Died in Danville Asylum March 23, 1868. Buried in Plymouth.

Henry Devins, private, Co. M, 8th Regt., P. Cav. Discharged June 27, 1865, died Feb. 8, 1868. Buried in Forty Fort.

Jeremiah Klinger, private, Co. K, 95th Regt., P. V. Discharged June 18, 1865, died March 19, 1868. Buried in Butler Township.

Owen Boyle, sergeant, Co. D, 16th Regt., P. V. Discharged July 30, 1861, killed in Latimer No. 2 mine, March 23, 1868. Buried in Hazleton.

Gustavus J. Shollenberger, private, Co. E, 96th Regt., P. V. Discharged Jan. 10, 1868. Instantly killed March 24, 1868, on L. V. RR. near Highland breaker. Buried in Pottsville.

Wm. H. Fite, private, Co. E, 7th Regt., P. Cav. Discharged Aug. 23, 1865, died April 7, 1873. Buried in Mossville Cemetery.

Wm. Holleran, private, Co. I, 46th Regt., P. V. Discharge not found. At his death, Nov. 4, 1867, held a pension certificate. Buried in Plains.

Edward C. Corral, private, Co. E, 29th Regt., Conn., colored, Vols. Discharged May 17, 1865, died June 7, 1868. Buried in Wyoming.

Alfred Carran, private, Co. H, 7th Regt., P. Cav. Discharged May 19, 1865, died June 7, 1868. Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Wm. Low, private, Co. I, 173th Regt., P. V. Discharged July 27, 1863, died June 5, 1868. Buried in Catawissa.

James Bray, private marine, U. S. Navy, U. S. Steamship Mississippi. He was discharged Oct. 17, 1864, at the marine barracks, Boston. He was found suffocated by gas Oct. 30, 1865, in breaker No. 11, Reading RR Co., Plymouth. A copy of his discharge was found in his pocket, and other papers, among which was an application for prize money, enumerating service in the capture of several Rebel steamers. There were also found badges of Gowen Point, 23, G. A. R.

#### A Page Torn From History.

A most interesting relic of the past has been handed into the Record office by a subscriber. It is an issue of the *The Presbyterian*, bearing the date Saturday, April 10, 1841. On the second and third pages of the paper the column rules are turned, out of respect to the memory of a President of the United States who died a month after being inaugurated—William Henry Harrison. His death is noted, and the scenes of his last hours are fully described. Mr. Harrison's last words are prominently displayed: "Sir, I wish you to understand the true principles of the Government. I wish them carried out. I ask nothing more." He thought he was addressing one of his official associates, though none were present. This was three hours before death.

The official notice of the President's death is also given, signed by the Cabinet officers—Daniel Webster, secretary of State; Thomas Ewing, secretary of the treasury; John Bell, secretary of war; J. J. Crittenden, attorney general; Francis Granger, postmaster general. This is followed by the official notice to John Tyler, vice president. The order of the funeral procession is given in full. It included representatives from the army, navy, militia and all departments of government.

Commenting editorially upon the death of President Harrison, the paper says in part: "We believe we express the opinion

of almost every citizen of the United States, when we say that General Harrison was a sound patriot, unsurpassed in love of country and its republican institutions, upright in all his dealings public and private—one who passed through almost every station of public life with clean hands and pure heart."

Such a legacy as this is priceless to the present Republican nominee for President, and although the simple fact that Gen. Harrison is the "grandson of his grandfather" may not of itself elect him, yet such honorable lineage, with the pure life of Harrison himself, is significant and admirable.

The old newspaper savors of age, not only in its material, now yellow tinted, but also in the contributions to its general news column. One item speaks of instructions being given the various superintendents "to have the Erie Canal open by the 10th of April, that navigation may be commenced as soon as practicable, which will no doubt be at an early day."

The death of "another revolutionary patriot" is mentioned, Ebenezer Gilson of Canfield, Ohio, aged 87 years. He was the man who carried the first mail between Warren and Pittsburg in 1789.

The then antiquated manner of railroad travel is forcibly suggested in an item which speaks of the Camden and Amboy Railroad line between New York and Philadelphia, the time between the two cities being six hours. The fastest time now made is of course known to be 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Not the least interesting of all the contents is the item to the effect that "a ship has lately sailed from London for the coast of Africa, to induce natives of Africa to proceed voluntarily to the West Indies as free emigrants, etc. They are to be quite unfettered by engagements before embarkation, and free to choose their own employers and make their own terms on reaching their new home."

Among the advertisements is one for "Pew 63 east middle aisle, in the middle block of the Sixth Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. Price \$165."

Not only is there much entertainment in the examination of these old newspapers, but their perusal is valuable and satisfactory as in such a page, torn from history, the wonderful growth of our country is suggested in almost every line, and rendered still more forcible by the implications of progress, when "we read between the lines."

#### Benjamin Kilbourn.

It is claimed by the descendants of Benjamin Kilbourn that he was at Wyoming some time before and at the time of the battle. He taught school and sometimes read ser-

mons on the Sabbath. He was a lame man, one foot being a "club foot" and shorter than the other. He was a shoemaker by trade. Information on the subject is solicited.

#### Interesting Campaign Relics.

The RECORD was shown yesterday a couple of souvenirs of the presidential campaign of 1840 and 1844, which are quite interesting for inspection to-day, and of value as keepsakes.

One is a medal, and has on one side a vignette of Gen. Harrison, and the legend "Maj. Gen. W. H. Harrison, born Feb. 9, 1773." The reverse side displays the famous log cabin, and another legend, "The people's choice in 1840."

The other is a white silk badge, on which is printed an eagle at the top, a verse of rhyme following, then the title "Democratic-Whig badge," then the names "Clay, Frelinghuysen and Markle," the Presidential and Congress tickets of 1844, and at the bottom "Protection of Home Industry." This was presented to the owner, Mrs. Clara Berlin, of this city, by her uncle, the late Squire Isaac Courtright, of Salem Township. It was printed at Berwick in the year named, and is quite well preserved. The medal is also the property of Mrs. Berlin, and was presented to her by the late Dr. Crary, also of Salem.

#### Cutting Down Fine Trees.

The hand of progress may well be called ruthless when it fells such handsome trees as were laid low by the woodman's axe on Aug. 13 on the Ziba Bennett property on Main Street, just above Public Square. Yet trees must give way when new buildings are projected. These trees stood on the vacant space between the Ziba Bennett homestead and the frame building lately vacated by the Gas Company, and they were set out by Mr. Bennett some 40 years ago. Their chopping down was superintended by Mr. E. Humphreys. Two noble maples had a diameter of 20 and 27 inches, respectively, and were perfectly sound. An apple tree measured 24 inches across the butt and a sugar locust nearly as much. Their downfall was witnessed and lamented by throngs of people in front of the RECORD office.

The old building demolished to make room for a new block was the one in which Ziba Bennett began business for himself, after he withdrew from association with George M. Hollenback. It is a singular coincidence that both this building and the Hollenback store undergo demolition at the same time to make room for modern business blocks.

### THEY RALLY AGAIN.

The 143d Regiment P. V. on Their Old Camp Ground—An Oratorical Treat—The Old Soldiers Called to the Front—To Meet Next Year at Gettysburg.

A most pleasing event was the reunion of the 143d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers at the old camp ground in Luzerne August 23th. Long before noon the survivors of the old regiment, with their families, friends and others interested began gathering in the little town. They were met by the people of the town in a spirit of cordiality that surprised them. Although the hotels of the town had made extra preparation for entertaining visitors they had but few demands for accommodations. Hospitable town's people greeted the arriving visitors with an invitation to dinner in their own homes, and would not take No for an answer. After being so pleasantly entertained in the village, the assembled visitors at 1 o'clock adjourned to the camp ground, where on the brow of the hill overlooking the valley, the flag was planted and the throng gathered about it to listen to the exercises of the day.

It would be hard to say which was the prettier sight, the hill viewed from the valley or the valley viewed from the hill. The spectator in the valley saw the green mound, sunlit, crowned by a dark mass of humanity. Among the throng the blue coat was conspicuous, while on the outskirts of the crowd a score or more of children sported on the green slopes in bright colored attire. Above all the glowing colors of the national banner rose and fell in the breeze, crowning the hill like a beacon light.

Climbing the hill one witnessed a sight which for beauty is not equaled in any other locality. The panorama spread out on all sides combined every element of beauty. Close by on either side the grimy breakers or glittering slope of culm piles formed an appropriate setting for the picture. The foreground stretching towards Kingston and Wilkes Barre showed in close proximity the home of luxury and wealth, and all the beauties of rural life. The winding stream, which divides the valley, lay in full view, while beyond, the towers and steeples, the thousands of rooftops of the city could be seen, here and there half obscured by the smoke which betokened some teeming hive of industry.

The older members of the assemblage crowded closely around the color bearer, for by his side stood the orator of the day, F. O. Mosier, Esq., of Pittston. Mr. Mosier, on being introduced by the president, Capt. DeLacey, of Soranton, entered into an oration which for over an hour held his auditors in spell bound interest. He treated the history of the 143d Regiment from its organi-

zation to its disbanding in minute detail. Its every movement in the field and every detail of camp life were detailed in the choicest language. The relations of the regiment to the other forces in the field were dwelt upon at length and each hero of the Army of the Potomac and of the regiment was honored by a glowing tribute of praise. During a brilliant flight of oratory in honor of Gen. Hancock, he graphically described the part the 143d Regiment took in the battle of Gettysburg. In this he referred to the charge of Wilcox's Alabama troops, and pictured the 143d as firing upon them as they advanced. At the close of the narration, Capt. DeLacey interrupted him and stated that it was a matter of dispute whether the 158d had actually fired on Wilcox's troops. To settle the matter he asked any and all who remembered firing on them as stated, to raise the right hand. In response over a dozen hands went up, and he declared himself satisfied on that point. That not more testified to the event he said, was due to the fact that most of those now on the ground had been wounded and disabled in the battle of the day previous to the charge.

The orator in continuing referred in a lowered tone, in words of sadness to the famous Confederate leader, who if his sword had been drawn in the cause of the country, he had fought for in Mexico, might now be sleeping with the Nation's honored dead, in Arlington's sacred soil, where amid brave comrades, we had so lately laid the gallant hero of a hundred battles, Phillip H. Sheridan. There they rest awaiting the trump of the arch-angel which shall arouse them to join the last and greatest reunion of the grand army.

In the choicest of language the speaker described the closing battles of the war and the return to Harrisburg, where the smoke begrimed and battle torn flags were stood among the archives of the State, to remind future generations of how Luzerne's brave heroes had fought and bled, that coming generations might rejoice in one country and one flag.

Col. Campbell, of Pittston, was loudly called for, and spoke first in high praise of the address which he had just listened to. He spoke of the fitness of the annual reunions, and counseled all to let them serve as frequent reminders of the debt the country owes to its defenders.

Capt. T. O. Parker was next called upon, and referred to Mr. Mosier's oration as equal or superior to any ever delivered before the society. Capt. Parker declined to make a speech, as he had heard that by a vote the regiment had decided to shoot on the spot any one addressing them who had no

whiskers. The laugh went round and the captain retired.

Ex-Mayor McKune, of Scranton, was next called into the circle and made an eloquent appeal in behalf of the veterans who needed aid. "Think of the debt we owe them," said he, "and when you hear any one begrudging them the pittance the Government bestows, rebuke him with all the manhood you possess. Tell him of all they staked for their country, and ask him what this country would now be, but for their sacrifices."

Major M. L. Blair, of Scranton, responded to a call, by some pleasant and appropriate remarks.

Comrade O. E. Vaughn, of Moscow, was called to the front, and declining the offered sunshade, addressed his companions, giving some interesting reminiscences of the camp on the spot 26 years ago.

Capt. H. M. Gordon, of Plymouth, in his response to a call, paid a fine tribute to the wives and mothers who, in the days of war, gave up so freely the husband or son on whose strength they were dependent for support and comfort.

Capt. Wilbur F. Wright and Capt. Marcy were called for and made brief responses.

Capt. De Lacey, the president of the day, was next called for in a fashion that would not admit of refusal. He tried to beg off, but it was only when he threatened to tell the people of the neighborhood of some humorous episodes of camping days that they let up. Some even intimated that Capt. DeLacey knew more of this than any one else. He responded that he did know that the chickens of the present day in that vicinity take to the woods where they hear of a 143d reunion there.

The association next went into the transaction of business, and decided to hold their next reunion at Gettysburg on such day as the Governor might select as Pennsylvania Day. As the contractors who are constructing the monuments for the Gettysburg battle field could not complete them this season, the regiment will probably dedicate their tablet on the occasion of their reunion.

By a vote, instead of electing officers, the present officers were continued.

The attendance of general visitors was quite large, though the number of veterans of the 143d was small. Members were present from all parts of the country. One of the most distantly located is Comrade Ruggs of Co. D, now a resident of Mariaville, Brown County, Nebraska. Among those from nearer home were the following:

P. DeLacey, Scranton; Ira Coener, Scranton; Ohas. Shotten, Wilkes Barre; Ohas S Gabel, Wilkes Barre; G. W. Eagle, Luzerne; G. W. Keller, Luzerne; Morris Bush, Mountain Top; M. M. Covert, Forty Fort; Aaron

Porter, Wilkes-Barre; Thos. A. Dally, Lehman; W. F. Rice, Cease's Mills; J. D. Willie, Luzerne; Ira Ransom, Plymouth; J. A. Roat, Dallas; M. L. Blair, Hyde Park; Daniel Hunt, Miner's Mills; H. M. Gordon, Plymouth; J. H. Campbell, Beach Haven; Aaron Freeman, Wilkes-Barre; Wm. W. Schooley, Plymouth; O. D. Kunkle, Dallas; Wm. Knorr, Luzerne; Lyman Harris, Luzerne; J. M. Wolfe, Pike's Creek; O. E. Vaughn, Moscow.

The attendance of veterans of other regiments was quite large. Much regret was expressed at the absence of Gen. E. L. Dana.

#### Paxinosa.

Apropos of the recent opening of Paxinosa Inn, a new summer resort near Easton, the *Home Journal* prints the legend of the place in neat verse. Here is what the *Home Journal* says:

#### DEATH SONG OF TA-TA-MA.

Paxinosa, a young Shawnee chief from the Susquehanna, in love with Tatama, a daughter of Tatamy, a chief of the Delawares, was surprised and tortured to death on a high and beautiful spur of the Alleghenies just as he was about to light a signal fire to announce his possession of the maiden. The legend runs further that Tatama died, piteously bewailing the loss of her lover.

Paxinosa! Paxinosa!  
Lip of love and eye of flame,  
Bird from out the blue of heaven,  
That to lone Tatama came,  
On the summit fire the signal  
And to Susquehanna bear  
Plighted troth of fond Tatama,  
Daughter of the Delawares,  
Flash the light with set of sun,  
Paxinosa's bride is won.

Paxinosa! Paxinosa!  
From the mount of beauty blase  
Love's true tale to dusky daughters  
Over woods and fields of maize  
Why delay the joyous beacon,  
Vell Tatama's soul in night?  
Speak, ere in the east the morning  
Floods the ridge with golden light.  
Must Tatama's poor heart stay  
Tortured through another day?

Paxinosa! Paxinosa!  
On the queen of mountains lies  
Fairrest of Tatamy's daughters  
While her lover sadly dies,  
Vanish, world of wondrous beauty,  
Mists of night above thee spread—  
Lester her warrior, Paxinosa—  
Fall and shroud Tatama dead,  
Mountain tomb, in grandeur drest,  
Mark the lovers' place of rest.

## THE SUGAR LOAF MASSACRE.

Copy of a Letter Written by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Balliet to President Reed in 1780—Also a Letter Sent to the Same Gentleman by Colonel Samuel Rea.

In the July issue of the RECORD (p. 125) was an interesting historical sketch of that portion of Luzerne County known as Sugar Loaf Valley, from the pen of the late Mr. John O. Stokes, some 20 years ago. As bearing upon the Sugar Loaf massacre therein related we take pleasure in reprinting from the *Hazleton Sentinel* some correspondence extracted from the Pennsylvania Archives:

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, Sept. 20, 1780.—  
SIR: I take the earliest opportunity to acquaint your excellency of the distressed and dangerous situation of our frontier inhabitants, and the misfortune happened to our volunteers stationed at the Gnaden Huts, they having received intelligence that a number of disaffected persons lived near the Susquehanna at a place called the Scotch Valley, who have been suspected to hold up correspondence with the Indians and the Tories in the country. They set out on the 8th inst., for that place to see whether they might be able to find out anything of that nature, but were attacked on the 10th at noon about eight miles from that settlement by a large body of Indians and Tories (as one had red hair) supposed by some forty and by others twice that number, they totally dispersed our people, twenty-two out of forty-one have since come in several of whom are wounded. It is also reported that Lieut. John Moyer had been made a prisoner and made his escape from them again and returned at Wyoming.

On the first notice of the unfortunate event the officers of the militia have exerted themselves to get volunteers out of their respective divisions to go up and bury the dead. Their labor proved not in vain. We collected about 150 men and officers from the Colonels Kern, Giger and my own battalions, who would undergo the fatigue and danger to go there and pay that respect to their slaughtered brethren, due to men who fell in support of the freedom of their country. On the 15th we took up our line of march (want of ammunition prevented us from going sooner). On the 17th we arrived at the place of action, where we found ten of our soldiers dead, scalped, stripped naked and in a most cruel and barbarous manner—tomahawked, their throats cut, etc., etc., whom we buried and returned without even seeing any of their black allies and bloody executors of British tyranny. I can't conclude without observing that the Col. Kern, of the

third battalion, and Giger, of the sixth, who is upwards of sixty years of age, together with all the other officers and men, have encountered their high and many hills and mountains with the greatest satisfaction and discipline imaginable, and their countenances appeared to be eager to engage with their tyrannical enemies who are employed by the British Court and equipped at their expense, as appeared by a new fuse and several gun barrels, etc., bent and broke in pieces with the British stamp thereon, found by our men. We also have great reason to believe that several of the Indians have been killed by our men, in particular one by Col. Kern and another by Capt. Moyer, both of whom went volunteers with this party. We viewed where they said they fired at them and found the grass and weeds remarkably beaten down, though they had carried them off. So I conclude with remaining your Excellency's most humble servant,

STEPHEN BALLIET,  
Lt. Col. 1st B. N. O. M.

The following extract is from a letter written by Col. Samuel Rea to President Reed, and bears date, "Mount Bethel, Oct. 24, 1780:"

"Col. Balliett informs me that he had given council in relation of killed and wounded he had found and buried near Nescopeck. As he was at the place of action his account must be as near the truth as any I could procure, though since that Lieut. Myra, who was taken prisoner by the enemy in that unhappy action, has made his escape from the savages and reports that Ensign Scooby and one private was taken with him and that the party consisted of thirty Indians and one white savage; that they had thirteen scalps along with them, that several of them were wounded and suppose some killed."

## Mrs. Mary Deitrick's Death.

The death of Mrs. Mary Deitrick, wife of the late George H. Deitrick, occurred at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. George Brotherhood, on Tuesday, August 21. Deceased, who has long been an invalid, was 68 years of age. She has seven children living, three daughters and a son residing in this vicinity. They are Mrs. Ella G. Turner, of this city; Mrs. B. J. Walker, of Plymouth; Mrs. George Brotherhood, of South Street, and Harry Deitrick, of this city. The others are Mrs. Charles Derby, Wichita, Kan.; Mrs. George A. Kent, Binghamton, and Mr. M. F. Deitrick, Binghamton. The funeral took place Thursday at 8 o'clock pm., from the residence, No. 27 South Street, Rev. H. L. Jones officiating. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

**COL. JAMES E. GAY DEAD.**

He Expired Suddenly Aug. 14 at Midnight, at a Hotel in This City—A Leading Republican and a Good Citizen Lost.

The Record has to announce the startling intelligence of the sudden death of a sterling citizen of this county, Col. James E. Gay, of Laffin, the paymaster and secretary of the Laffin Powder Co. Col. Gay had been in town Tuesday afternoon, and about 8 o'clock went into Wm. J. McLaughlin's Hotel for his supper. He ate with the proprietor, and it was noticed that he seemed nervous, dropping his coffee cup twice. Mr. McLaughlin asked if he felt unwell, he answering that he did not. After supper he consented to go up stairs and sit in the parlor by a front window, and later Mrs. McLaughlin persuaded him to lie down on the lounge. About 10 o'clock the proprietor's sister-in-law informed him that Col. Gay seemed to be breathing very heavily, but as he is a stout man and Mr. McLaughlin knew that this was not unusual with him, no further notice was taken until 12 o'clock, when the place was closed up and Mr. McLaughlin went to arouse the sleeper and have him go to bed. He found him struggling very hard and saw that his condition was serious, and went immediately for Dr. Long. The physician was on the spot in a few minutes, but Col. Gay was dead. Apoplexy is the probable cause.

The deceased has lived in this vicinity for about 18 years, and is widely known, especially in the northern end of the county. Few men are more generally known or loved, he being a genial whole-souled gentleman. During his residence here he has been in the employ of the powder company, and he has taken an active part in politics, being a staunch Republican, and a leader of his party. For many years he has been an auditor of the Pittston Poor Board.

Deceased was a native of Sharon, Connecticut, aged 68 years, and unmarried. He has two sisters living in his native State.

E. D. Laffin, of the Laffin Powder Co., arrived here at 12:20 am. Thursday, accompanied by William A. Gay, of Mountain View, N. J., a brother of Col. Gay, who is connected with the Laffin Rand Powder Co. They were met at the depot by Mr. McLaughlin and Supt. Bouse, of the Laffin Powder Co., and were escorted to the hotel where the deceased had died.

**An Old Citizen Dead.**

Henry Schappert, a well known citizen and a man widely related in this city, fell a victim to cholera morbus August 15 at 7 o'clock at his home in Newtown. His illness dates only from last Saturday and his death will be a shock to his many friends who last heard of him as well and hearty.

The deceased was a native of Bavaria, 57 years of age and had resided in this country thirty-one years. He leaves a wife and six children. They are Mrs. Mary Hoffman, of this city; Sister Landeline, of Malinkrodt Convent; Henry Schappert, of Nanticoke, and Misses Maggie, Annie and Sophia Schappert, of this city. Deceased was a brother of John, Peter, Jacob, Michael and George Schappert, all well known citizens of Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. Anthony Raver, Mrs. John Schwab and Mrs. Adam Scheidel, also of this city.

**Another Veteran Dead.**

At 9:50 Wednesday, Aug. 15, occurred the death of Conrad Futterer, of cholera, at his home on North River Street. Mr. Futterer was for 31 years a resident of Wilkes-Barre, though a native of Germany. He served during the war as a volunteer in Co. G., Eighth Regiment, P. V., and was a member of Ely Post, G. A. R. He would have been 59 years old the next Tuesday. He leaves a wife and three daughters. They are Mrs. Theo. G. Boettoher, Mrs. George Dessel and Mrs. Thomas McDermott.

The funeral was conducted by Ely Post and by the Odd Fellows, of which organization he was a member.

**Died at Eighty-two.**

Dr. J. S. Smith, who has been for a number of years a resident of Wilkes-Barre, died July 27 at 8 o'clock am., aged 82 years. Dr. Smith practiced dentistry with Dr. Wheaton the first few years of his residence in this city, and for the last few years has lived with Dentist Frank A. Selover, on Scott Street.

For many years Dr. Smith has been mentally unbalanced, his delusion being that he was the inventor of all the important dental instruments now in use, and that jealous rivals robbed him of the results of his inventions by getting into his apartments and chloroforming him.

A few years ago he explained his claims in great detail, in the advertising columns of the local papers, they being written in very wretched doggerel verse. He invented a system of book keeping for dentists. The figure of Dr. Smith was until quite recently a familiar one on our streets, his bent form having become very tremulous, and his features wan and haggard. He had an aneurism of the sort.



**MR. SWOYER IS DEAD.**

**He Passes Away with an Ocean Between Him and His Family — A Victim of Rheumatic Meningitis.**

The readers of the RECORD were apprised Monday of the fact that Mr. J. H. Swoyer was lying at the point of death and that the end was hourly expected. The prediction of his physicians was fulfilled for he sank into the sleep of death shortly after 10 o'clock the same forenoon. The cause of death was cerebral meningitis, of rheumatic character, the disease having transferred itself from the upper extremities to the brain.

Mr. Swoyer took his family to Germany a year ago for a two years' residence in Leipzig, he returning last spring to superintend his coal operations here. It was his purpose to return to Germany during the present month of September, spend the winter in Leipzig and then return next spring and resume his residence in Wilkes-Barre. Some six weeks ago Mr. Swoyer suffered a renewal of his gouty trouble, but it was no more aggravated than in previous attacks and no solicitude was felt as to his condition until Saturday, when delirium set in, followed by unconsciousness, which continued until death, on Sept. 10.

John Henry Swoyer, was born in Berks county, Pa., 58 years ago Christmas Day, his father, John Swoyer, still living in Maxatawny Township, Berks Co., at the ripe old age of 86 years. Mr. Swoyer came to Wilkes-Barre in 1859, and since that time he has always been prominently identified with the coal interests of Wyoming Valley. At the present time his coal interests are centered in the Wyoming Valley Coal Co., of which he was president, and one of its largest stockholders. When the Wilkes-Barre militia went to Antietam during Gen. Lee's first invasion of Pennsylvania in 1862, Mr. Swoyer was first lieutenant in Co. I, 8d Regiment, of which company Stanley Woodward was captain.

Mr. Swoyer was a representative of private mining, rather than that of corporation mining, and he was always bold, and generally successful. He was courageous to a degree, and was able to float enterprises that would have driven many a man from the business. It is thought that he went through vicissitudes enough to kill a dozen men, and it is not at all unlikely that overwork was a factor in his breaking down while yet in the prime of life. He was a whole souled, generous man, true to his friends and forgiving to his enemies. As an employer he was a favorite always. Men who obtained positions under him and attended to their work seldom had any reason

for seeking employment elsewhere. He was a bon vivant, a royal entertainer, devoted to his family, full of sunshine and good cheer and the last man who ought to have had his latter years made miserable at times with painful attacks of rheumatism.

His first wife was Miss Albertina, daughter of Major John Reichard, by whom he had these children, all living: Jessie E., aged 23; Anna C., aged 20; Marie L., aged 19; J. Henry, aged 17, and Wilhelm T., aged 15. His second wife is also a daughter of Major Reichard, Mrs. Magdalena J. Holmes. Their only child is a little fellow, Alfred Edward. Mrs. Swoyer has a daughter by her former marriage, Miss Marie A. Holmes, who is a member of the same household.

Mr. Swoyer has five brothers, J. J. and J. K. Swoyer, Philadelphia; D. H. and Francis H., of Bower's Station; Allan Swoyer, of Swoyerville, Berks County.

**A Pennsylvanian Dies in Illin is.**

Someone hands the RECORD a copy of the Chicago *Legal News* announcing the death on September 9, of a leading Illinois lawyer, Hon. Amos B. Coon. Deceased was born in Towanda, Bradford Co., Feb. 12, 1815, and was the youngest of a family of twenty-one children. He was one of the oldest settlers of Northern Illinois, having settled in McHenry County in 1835. In 1845 he opened a law office in Marengo, and from the start took a prominent part in public affairs. He was Provost Marshal during the war, and at the time of his death was Master in Chancery. He also held the same position from 1848 to 1862. He was State's Attorney two different times. He was exceedingly well read in the law, and had a remarkable memory, and was a close student up to the last. He took an active part in the counsels of the Republican party in county, district and State affairs. He married Harriet A. Damon, of Ohio, May 11, 1846. They had three children, two of whom are now living, Mrs. Coro Gilmore and Adelbert B. Coon, who is the nominee of the Republican party for the office of State's Attorney of McHenry County.

**Josiah Gray's Widow Dead.**

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray whose serious illness was mentioned in these columns a few days ago, died Saturday evening. She was the wife of the late Josiah Gray, who many years was a successful baker on South Main Street. She leaves four children, Mrs. George Gruver, Mrs. Wm. Garrison, and John C., of the Adams Express, and Wm. S., of Baeder's binding establishment to mourn the loss of a kind and loving mother. The funeral took place from her late residence, 11 South Welles Street, Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock. Deceased was in her 62nd year.

#### Formerly a Wilkes-Barre Rabbi.

The Albany Argus of Aug 5, points a biographical sketch of Moses Strasser, said to have been a Jewish Rabbi in Wilkes-Barre years ago. The sketch is appended:

Moses Strasser, one of Albany's oldest citizens, died yesterday, Aug. 4. He was born December 14, 1809, in the town of Floss, in Bavaria. He was the descendant of rabbis, and accordingly he received a very fine education. In 1845 he came to this country, intending to enter business, but he accepted the position of rabbi over a congregation at Wilkes-Barre, Penn. In 1851, however, he left Wilkes-Barre, and coming to Albany, engaged in the tobacco trade. From that day to this he was known in the community as a man of the highest integrity. Previous to his coming to Albany, in 1847, he had married a Miss Feltman, of Philadelphia, who has for years been president of the leading Jewish benevolent and charitable society of Albany. Moses Strasser himself was very devout in his faith, and was well known for practical deeds of charity. He was an enthusiastic musician and had arranged or composed much of the music used in the synagogues in this country. For thirty-five years he was reader for the Anshe Emeth congregation, and for years he has been trustee of the synagogue here. His death will be greatly mourned, not only by the people of his own faith, but by the whole community. He leaves a wife and four sons, Benjamin, Solomon, David and Isaac.

#### A Former Wyoming Valley Man Dead

On Saturday, Sept. 1, occurred the death at his home at Niagara Falls, of Stoughton Pettebone, elder brother of the late Payne Pettebone, of Wyoming, whose death occurred March 20, 1888. Mr. Pettebone was a native of Wyoming Valley, having been born here April 9, 1812, he being a year or two older than his brother Payne. Mr. Pettebone was engaged at the time of his death and for many years previous in the manufacture of paper at Niagara Falls. He was a regular reader of the RECORD, and was fond of contributing his reminiscences of the home of his youth to its columns. His many friends here will be saddened to hear of his demise. He leaves a family.

#### A Dallas Pioneer Dead.

Elijah Ayers, of Dallas, died August 31, 1888, aged 84 years. His death resulted from dysentery. He was one of the first settlers north of Dallas Borough and bought and cleared up a large farm. He was one of the best farmers in this region. He came here from the State of New Jersey when quite a young man and married Catharine

Honeywell, a daughter of Richard Honeywell. He leaves a family of one son and four daughters, namely: Alfred Ayers; Margaret Ann, wife of Sidney Worden, of Dallas; Emma, wife of Thomas Shepherd; Jane, wife of Spencer Worden, and Lydia, wife of Charles Crispel, of Beaumont. The funeral took place on Sunday.

#### Whose Bones They Were.

EDITORS RECORD: I noticed in last Saturday's issue of your paper an account of the building near the new Hungarian Church, on North Main Street, human bones enclosed in the remains of a rude coffin, which was regarded as a great mystery by the people living in that vicinity. It is strange indeed that important local events so soon become obliterated from the minds of the people dwelling in their immediate vicinity. The plot of ground referred to, was formerly used as a family as well as neighborhood burying ground by the Hollenback family living in the old house down by the mill, since destroyed by fire. Fifty years ago the lot, some one hundred feet square, was enclosed by a picket fence, and here were buried the grand parents and father and little sister of the late John M. Hollenback, together with many other dwellers in that vicinity. I should say that twenty-five or more bodies were buried there. The Hollenbacks were removed to the new Hollenback Cemetery, but all the others probably remain where they were first laid to rest in their humble graves.

W. J.

#### Indian Relics Exhumed.

The other day, while a party of Wilkes-Barreans at Triangular Lake, formerly known as Three Cornered Pond, in Wright Township, were pitching quoits near the water's edge, on W. C. Shepherd's lot, they came upon some roundish shaped, flat stones, with a piece chipped out of two sides. Upon digging carefully they found some 50 or more of these stones, arranged in the form of a circle some eight feet in diameter, each stone standing on edge. It said that Indian relics are quite numerous in the locality and the presence of such a collection of these stones would seem to indicate that the aborigines were fond of resorting to this pretty little lake on the top of the mountain. One stone there has a cutting edge, like a deer skinner, another is a fossiliferous stone with impressions of shells. It is generally believed that this kind of stone was used by the aborigines as a net sinker. They are the simplest in construction of all the relics of the stone age and required no skill whatever in their production.

## IMPROVED ST. STEPHEN'S.

The Congregation Take Possession of Their Rejuvenated Edifice—Some Beautiful Frescoing and Decorative Windows—Parish History.

Worshippers at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church who had seen nothing of the interior work that had been going on during the summer had a complete surprise Sunday, Sept. 18. That such a complete change could be wrought in the mere matter of decorating would scarcely have been believed. What was formerly an interior of a seeming preponderance of black, red and yellow brick, has received such an artistic handling, that there is a blending into a harmonious whole, and the brick work of the dado, arches and chancel, is only an incident, and a pleasing one, too. The particular frescoing employed would not be appropriate for any other than a brick base, and there would be no way of completing the brick work without some such frescoing as this. It is safe to say that nearly all who criticised before, will be delighted now.

## THE DECORATIONS.

The brick dado which rises some 10 feet to the base of the windows and made of varicolored bricks, has just above it a dark green band of decorated work, a foot or two in width. Above this is a broad band in terra cotta frescoing, six or eight feet in width. From this there extends to the timber and Georgia pine paneled ceiling a band in olive, about as wide as the terra cotta. All these bands are decorated with figures taken from old cathedrals of Europe. Alongside the chancel arch are two Byzantine seals illustrating the parable of the mustard seed becoming a tree on which the birds of the air found a resting place. In the terra cotta band are Greek crosses, each arm of which has another cross. Between the windows are gold shields bearing the Alpha and Omega symbols. The terra cotta frescoing over the middle entrance is broken so as to include the Ross window and is carried to the ceiling, the circular window being flanked by palm branches. The smaller of the Richard Sharpe windows is balanced at the opposite extremity of the front wall by a frescoed window, the tower making it impossible to place an actual window at that point. The chancel ceiling has been gilded, a marked departure from the former canopy of cerulean blue and stars of gold.

## NEW FURNITURE.

The old oaken pulpit so familiar for many years has given way to an antique brass pulpit, the base of which is of massive oak.

The pulpit bears this inscription in a single running line:

"Trinity, A. D. 1888. For the preaching of the word of God and in memory of George W. Woodward, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania and twice member of Congress of the United States. Died May 10, 1875, aged 86 years. Erected by his daughter Mrs. Eben Greenough Scott."

Within the chancel is a bishop's chair of antique oak and bronze, given in memory of the Rt. Rev. William Bacon Stevens, and an antique oak communion table to correspond.

A brass tablet, the gift of Mrs. Bishop Stevens, and bearing the appended inscription has been placed upon the wall above the memorial font given by Mrs. W. L. Conyngham:

To the Glory of God  
and in loving memory  
of the

Hon. John Nesbitt Conyngham, LL. D.,

For nearly half a century

a vestryman and warden of this parish.

"The large minded and law-obeying citizen,

the wise and upright judge,

the sincere and earnest Christian,

the sound and devoted churchman."

And of

Ruth Anne Butler Conyngham,

his beloved wife,

faithful and loving in

all the relations of home life,

the friend of the poor,

the lover of the

Lord Jesus.

## MEMORIAL WINDOWS.

Conspicuous among the new features is a memorial window given by Mrs. Col. A. H. Bowman and her daughter, Mrs. Col. E. S. Otis, in loving memory of the latter's son, Miles Bowman McAlester, who died Jan. 18, 1887, aged 17 years. It was made in London, after Hoffman's celebrated painting, "Christ among the doctors in the temple." The execution is pleasing in the extreme and the coloring is in the highest style of glass decorative art. It is a somewhat singular coincidence that young McAlester's grandfather, Col. A. H. Bowman, was related to no less than five of the people who figured in the early history of the church, as recounted in the subsequent historical discourse: Bishop Samuel Bowman was a brother of the colonel; Bishop Kemper was father-in-law; Rev. Dr. May married his sister; Henry Denison was his cousin; and Eleanor Stewart Bowman, who was one of the organizers of the first Sunday school, was his mother. Capt. Samuel Bowman, father of Bishop Bowman, was an aide to Gen. Washington and walked beside Major Andre to the place of execution.

The next window, contributed by a friend, is not a memorial, but purely a decorative window. It is floral in design, the center being of golden rod and daisies, with the Greek letters, Chi Rho. Much of the glass is crinkled, other of it is in curiously pressed sections, so that the refractive effects are always changing with the changing of the position of the light. In the robing rooms are two beautiful windows in memory of angel daughters of Rev. Mr. Jones and Rev. Mr. Hayden, the affectionate tributes of the rector. They are also floral, similar to the window just described. The central design of one is the rose of Sharon, of the other the lily. They are thus inscribed:

Trinity, 1888.—In memory of Mary Elizabeth Hayden. Died Dec. 26, 1879, aged 4 years, 2 months.

Trinity, 1888.—In memory of Helen Crocker Jones. Died Nov. 6, 1876, aged 2 years, 6 months.

#### HISTORY OF THE PARISH.

Instead of preaching a sermon, Rev. H. L. Jones greeted his parishioners pleasantly and hoped that while the hand of the artist had made the sanctuary harmonious to the eye of man, the individual consecration of the worshippers might make it an acceptable offering in the sight of the living God. He then read a history of the parish, which he said had been prepared by Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden. We append a synopsis:

St. Stephen's Church has had an organized existence of seventy-one years. Rev. Bernard Page of the Church of England, ordained by the Lord Bishop of London for "Wyoming Parish, Penn.," August 24, 1772, was the first Protestant Episcopal minister to officiate in this section. Owing to the great political disturbances of that date, Mr. Page did not long remain in the valley, but retired to Virginia where he ministered as assistant to Rev. Bryan, Lord Fairfax. No other minister of the church is known to have visited these parts until 1814, when that "Apostle of the North West," Rt. Rev. Jackson Kemper, D. D., then chairman of the Committee on Missions in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, and assistant to Bishop White, held divine services in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, and stirred up the church people of the village of Wilkes-Barre. The first baptism recorded was performed by him December 8, 1814. Who officiated here during the next three years cannot be learned. No definite steps were taken to organize a parish until Sept. 19, 1817, when the church people met together and elected the first vestry, applied for a charter, which was granted Oct. 7, 1817, and engaged the services of Rev. Richard Sharpe Mason, D. D., then in deacon's orders. Mr. Mason was born in Barbadoes, W. I., 1795.

Graduated University Pa., A. B., 1812, A. M. 1816, Hon. deg. of D. D., 1830. Studied Theology under Bishop White, by whom he was ordained deacon Sept. 21, 1817, entered at once upon his work at Wilkes-Barre and remained there two years. Ordained priest by Bishop Moore, 1820, he at once took a high position in the ministry. Was President of Hobart College, N. Y., 1827-1835, and of Newark College, Delaware, 1835-1840, and then became the beloved rector in Raleigh, N. C., where he died in 1875.

Dr. Mason was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Phinney, ordained deacon by Bishop White, Feb. 25, 1816. His ministry here was brief and no record exists of his work.

In 1819, Rev. Manning R. Roohe ordained deacon by Bishop White, May 6, 1818, became the missionary at St. Stephen's. The Sunday school had been organized in 1818 by Hon. David Scott, the President Judge of the District, then the only male communicant of the church here, and the parish appears to have been prosperous. But Mr. Roohe retired from the parish in 1820, and from the ministry in 1822. During the next two years, 1821-1822, the services were conducted by Mr. Samuel Bowman a lay reader whose connection with St. Stephen's is worthy of notice.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, May 21, 1800, ordained deacon by Bishop White, Aug. 26, 1823, he was, after a successful ministry of 35 years at Lancaster and Easton, Pa., elected assistant bishop of Pennsylvania and consecrated Aug. 26, 1858.

St. Stephen's parish was admitted to the convention of Pennsylvania, May 2, 1821. During the previous years her people had worshipped in the old frame building, "Old Ship Zion" which had been erected by the joint contributions of the various Christian bodies in the town. It was determined Dec. 27, 1821 to sell the right of St. Stephen's parish in this building, and to purchase a lot and erect a church. Through the aid of Judge Scott this work was begun, and Jan. 15, 1822, the contract for the building was let.

Some of you will remember the following tradition, which our faithful friend and helper, Mrs. Maxwell, (whose presence and sympathy in all good works we have so much missed since her change of residence), has the credit of relating. When in the good old days three organized bodies of Christian people (Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians) met in the union meeting house, (in those days meeting house was the chosen term), Mrs. Bowman and other ladies deemed fitting to deck the interior of the same with evergreens, in commemoration of the birth of our Saviour. This was too much for the feelings of some of the worshippers, and

their zealous indignation found vent in the tearing down of the symbolic green. This so aroused these good Episcopalian sisters, that they determined to have a church edifice of their own. A lot was procured and eventually the church was built.

When it was formally opened does not appear, but the pews were rented Nov. 1822. On Sunday, June 14, 1824, the church was consecrated by Bishop White, who administered the rite of confirmation to a class of 41 persons. On the following Sunday Rev. Samuel Sitgrave, whom Bishop White had ordained deacon May 8, 1820 and who in 1823 had been called to be rector of St. Stephen's, was ordained priest by Bishop White. Bishop, then Rev. Dr. Kemper preached the sermon. This day the holy communion was administered to 49 persons. Mr. Sitgrave, who died Aug. 12, 1830, resigned in Dec. 1823, and was succeeded by Rev. Enoch Huntingdon, who remained until 1826.

He was succeeded February 1827, by Rev. James May, D. D., who was born Oct. 1, 1806, graduated A. B. from Jefferson College 1828, and the Virginia Theological Seminary 1826, was ordained deacon by Bishop White, 1826. After a very successful ministry of ten years, during which the church grew in all its departments, both in members and Christian zeal, he succeeded, in 1836 Dr. McCloskey (afterwards elected Bishop of Michigan) as rector of St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia.

Dr. May's later history is still a part of the history of St. Stephen's parish. In 1842 he was elected to the professorship of church history in the Virginia Theological Seminary, and it was under his instruction there that the present rector of St. Stephen's fitted himself for the work of the ministry. In 1861 Dr. May became a professor in the Philadelphia Divinity School where he died Dec. 11, 1863.

From a chapter on Dr. May's ministry in Wilkes-Barre, taken from "The life and letters of Dr. May," by the Rev. Alexander Shiras, I quote the following:

"The parish of St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, was at this time without a minister. It was yet comparatively small, and somewhat agitated by divisions. The salary it offered was hardly large enough to enable even an unmarried man to live, and no minister had, up to 1827, been encouraged to remain there long. But it was in a region evidently destined to be populous. The rich coal fields and splendid scenery of the valley of Wyoming lay around it. Besides the townspeople, there was a large and growing country population, and for one that was willing patiently to work and wait, it offered an interesting and attractive sphere of action. Under his ministry, the

church in Wilkes-Barre, from a feeble missionary station, grew to be what it has ever since continued, the largest, strongest, most effective one of the Protestant Episcopal Communion in all that section of the diocese. The sentiment of his parishioners in regard to him we may gather from the kind expressions of his vestry after he had declined one of numerous calls: 'When you first came to this people, you found them divided and broken, burdened with debt, and few in number. The influence of your character and your exertions have healed these dissensions, have enabled them to free themselves from their incumbrances, and have formed them into a respectful body of attentive hearers. What schisms and difficulties your departure and their choice of a successor may lead to, He only with whom there is no future can tell, and time alone make known to us.'"

Dr. May was succeeded in 1837 by Rev. William James Clark, who remained until 1840, when Rev. Robert Bethel Olaxton, S. T. D., who had just been ordained deacon by Bishop Moore, entered upon the charge of the parish. Dr. Olaxton, born 1814, graduated A. B. Yale College, in 1838, was rector until 1846. Like Dr. May, he left his impress on the church here by his unwearied and zealous labors. It was during Dr. Olaxton's ministry that such men as Hon. John Conyngham, LL. D., long the President of the American Church Missionary Society, Hon. Geo. W. Woodward, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and others of ability and influence became active and zealous communicants. He resigned in 1846, and after serving three other churches with marked success, was elected professor in the Philadelphia Divinity School to take the place of Dr. May. From 1873 he was rector of St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, until his death in 1882.

In 1846 Rev. Charles Dekay Cooper, D. D., of Mt. Morris, N. Y., was called and accepted charge, but after a few months he resigned to become rector at Rochester, N. Y. He is now rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia.

The next rector was Rev. George David Miles, born 1815, ordained by Bishop Eastham, 1846. He entered upon his duties at Wilkes-Barre, April 1, 1848, serving until 1866. His last sermon in St. Stephen's was preached Oct. 15, 1865, on the eve of his departure for Europe. During the earnest and active ministry of this beloved pastor, the church was blessed with large successes. In 1852 the increase of the congregation was such as to demand enlarged accommodations. The church building erected in 1852 was a frame structure of one story with towers at the

northeast corner. The Sunday school met in a building a square distant. In 1852 the congregation decided to tear down the old church and erect one of brick. March 27, 1853, Rev. Mr. Miles preached his last sermon in the old edifice. It is from this discourse that much of the present history of the church is derived. The work of demolition at once began, and on June 20, 1853, Bishop Alonzo Potter laid the corner stone of the new building. It erected was under the charge of Daniel A. Fell, builder, and had a seating capacity of 800. The first service was held in the basement, or Sunday school room, Dec. 25, 1853. The building was consecrated by Bishop A. Potter, April 13, 1855.

Rev. Robert Henry Williamson succeeded Mr. Miles and remained until 1874, when he was deposed from the ministry. During part of 1874 the parish had the services of the late Rev. Chauncey Colton, D. D., late president of Bristol College, Pa., and professor in Kenyon College, Ohio.

In 1874 the vestry elected as rector Rev. Henry L. Jones, then rector of Christ Church, Fitchburg, Mass., where he had ministered with great success for eleven years. Mr. Jones is the son of Rev. Lot Jones, for 33 years rector of the Church of Epiphany, New York City. He graduated A. B. from Columbia College, N. Y., 1858. A. M., 1861, Virginia Theological Seminary, 1861. After serving as assistant to his father during his diaconate he was ordained priest and entered upon missionary work in Fitchburg, Mass., where the parish of Christ Church was organized in Oct. 1863. During the fourteen years of his rectorate in Wilkes-Barre, the church has kept pace with the town, which has quadrupled its population in that time. While not the largest parish in the diocese in communicants, nor the richest, it has stood for the past decade at the head in contributions and in mission work. During the first ten years of Mr. Miles' rectorate the contributions of the parish were \$3,000, of which \$2,400 was devoted to missions. This for a young parish was liberal giving in those days. That the spirit of giving then developed has not lessened in intensity is shown by the results of the past 14 years. During the first ten years of Mr. Jones' rectorate the contributions were in round numbers \$150,000 increased by contributions from her missions to \$160,000, of which amount \$45,000 was devoted to missions. During the past four years the contributions of St. Stephen's alone have amounted to \$33,844.38 an average of \$20,000.

St. Stephen's supports two scholarships in Africa, two in China, two in Mexico, and

one in Utah. But her missionary work is not confined to the foreign field. She has organized, and aids in supporting six mission churches and Sunday schools within the limits of Wyoming Valley, which are under the charge of the assistant ministers of the parish: St. Peter's, Plymouth, owning a handsome property with church and rectory, amid a population of 10,000 souls; St. Andrew's, Alden, with new church and rectory, amid a population of 3,000 souls; St. George's, Nanticoke, with a brick church now building, amid a population of 12,000 souls; St. John's, Ashley, with a handsome frame church, amid 4,000 souls; Log Chapel, Laurel Run, connected with Gen. P. A. Oliver's powder mills, an exquisite model of rustic work, and Calvary Chapel, North Wilkes Barre, with a building in which a flourishing Sunday school is kept up. To carry on this outside work, St. Stephen's has three assistant ministers—Rev. Thomas B. Angell at Plymouth, Rev. Chas. M. Carr at Alden and Nanticoke; Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden at Wilkes Barre. St. Stephen's reports in the mother parish 340 communicants and including her various missions 540 communicants.

Five years ago the increased attendance at St. Stephen's was such as again to necessitate the enlargement of the building. The old parish church was what had been flippantly termed a "double decker"—a high basement below, used for Sunday school purposes, and approached by a flight of outside and inside steps through a central tower, and an upper story forming what is popularly termed the auditorium. The basement was abandoned and the floor of the auditorium dropped six feet. On the vacant lot in the rear of the church was built a commodious and convenient parish building containing all that is needful for the varied demands of Sunday school and parochial work. This building in a great measure surrounds the new apical chancel, which, with its massive arch, is all finished and lined with parti colored brick work, serving as a sort of culmination to the high dado of brick-work in the nave walls, the arrangement of color in which suggests a wall arcade, although only a flat surface. The side windows, which at first appear very high up, being at the top of this dado, are from time to time being occupied by handsome memorials in stained glass. The old plaster ceiling of the nave has been reconstructed and now shows an entire timber and boarded finish.

A large transept has been added on the north side, within which has been placed a fine organ. By elongating the old nave about 20 feet towards the street a number of additional sittings were obtained in the main auditorium; these, with the gain by the new transept, make the present seating

capacity a trifle over 800. The old central tower and the whole front having thus been torn down, the new front was built up of hard, dark brick, in a style similar to some of the Lombard buildings of Northern Italy. A prominent feature of the facade is a very large circular window formed in elaborate mouldings of brick-work, a memorial of Mrs. Ruth Ross. Below this is an arched porch or narthex, which extends all the way across the front. This is paved with tile, and the arches are closed in with cathedral glass. At the north end of this porch and directly at the corner of the church stands the new "Campanile," the lowest stage forming a sort of vestibule entrance to the church. From a base, of which seventy feet is severely plain brick work, there rises above the surrounding buildings an ornamental structure, which, with its double succession of columns and arcades, cornices and mouldings, recalls that great yellow tower of the "Podesta" in the old town of Pistoja, which John the Pisan adopted to become the Campanile of the Cathedral of St. James. The acoustic properties of the new church are perfect.

Seven clergymen have gone out into the ministry from St. Stephen's: Rt. Rev. Samuel Bowman, D. D., Rev. Geo. C. Drake and Rev. Henry M. Denison, all of whom are now dead; Rev. Alexander Shiras, D. D., of Washington; Rev. De Witt O. Loop, of Hammondton, N. J.; Rev. James L. Maxwell, of Danville, Pa., and Rev. James Caird, of Troy, N. Y. Among the lay readers of the parish were Judges Scott, Woodward, Conyngham and Dana.

The present vestry includes L. O. Paine, C. M. Conyngham, C. A. Miner, Richard Sharpe, A. R. Brundage, W. L. Conyngham, O. M. Brandow, H. W. Palmer, S. L. Brown, H. B. Hillman, F. J. Leavenworth, Garrett Smith. The organist is G. E. Orntenden; Supt. St. Stephen's Sunday school, J. T. Jeter; Supt. Calvary Mission Sunday school, S. L. Brown. The present rector is secretary of the Standing Committee of the Diocese and was delegate to the general conventions 1880, 1883, 1886. The branches of the Parish Guild are Ladies' Dorcas, Woman's Auxiliary, Young Peoples' Auxiliary, Church Temperance Society and Knights of Temperance.

The Sunday school children in connection with the main church (exclusive of organized missions) number 650, with 50 officers and teachers.

It is proper to add that the enlargement of St. Stephen's and the erection of the parish building, also of tower and vestibule, has been under the direction of C. M. Burns, of Philadelphia, as architect, and M. B. Houpt, of Wilkes-Barre, as contractor; the interior decoration by Edward J. N. Stent, of New

York. The stained glass windows, from the same skilled artist, have been so happy in their treatment, that already other churches in this section have called in his aid. The chancel furniture and memorial pulpit are from the well known church furnishers, Messrs. J. & R. Lamb, of New York. The memorial tablet of brass and marble is also from Mr. Stent, while other windows have been added by the La-Farge Co., of New York, Belcher & Co., of New York, and Groves & Stell, of Philadelphia. The Bowman window was made in London, England, and was the work of Charles Booth.

#### The Beautiful Vale of Wyoming.

Loved Vale of Wyoming—how sweet sounds thy name!

What memories of old thee surrounding;  
On history's pages, how touching thy tales—  
With trials and struggles abounding;  
But fair art thou still, and thy beauty unmarred,  
Nor ever in all of my roaming  
Found a valley so sweet, nor a spot I so loved,  
As thee, my dear Vale of Wyoming.

Beautiful vale—far famed vale—

Dearly loved Vale of Wyoming,  
Though far I may roam, forever my home  
Shall be the Old Vale of Wyoming.

Sweet valley so rich in thy treasures within,  
Surpassing without in thy grandeur,  
Thy kind open arms, when they welcomed me in,  
No longer I felt me a stranger.  
Though sad was my heart far away from the cot,  
Whence fate long ago sent me roaming,  
Till I found what I lost - a friend and a home,  
In thee, my loved Vale of Wyoming.

Immortal, fair valley, in story art thou,  
Nor higher in song are there any,  
Thy wealth and thy beauty have made thee re-  
knowned  
And blest with thy bounties are many,  
And, O! that the wretched who bloated with  
greed—  
His coffers with wealth over foaming,  
Would share to the needy as freely as thou,  
My generous vale of Wyoming.

My virtue guard ever thy daughters so fair,  
And like thee may nought mar their beauty,  
And brave be thy sons like thy heroes of old  
That died on the threshold of duty:  
O! green be the memories of those happy days,  
I scent in thy wildwood a roaming,  
While the merry birds sang their jubilant note  
To thee lovely vale of Wyoming.

Contented fair valley my heart is in thee,  
My song in thy praise shall flow ever;  
Like thy rocks to thy breast, I closely will cling,  
Till death's mighty hand shall us sever.  
My last wish shall be, when my last song is  
sung -

When my heart shall cease with its throbbing,  
To sleep in thy bosom with them that are "gone,"  
My dearly loved vale of Wyoming.

—George Coronway.

## PIONEER LIFE.

Some Idea of the Cost of Living in Wyoming Valley from 1770 to 1804, as Taken from a Farmer's Account Book.

[Contributed by H. B. Plumb.]  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41.

The previous accounts ended with the termination of Connecticut jurisdiction, as brought about by the Decree of Trenton. From 1787 Elisha Blackman was in Wilkes-Barre, and the currency then used here was 7 shillings and six pence to the dollar. The figures following pounds, shillings and pence are the equivalents in dollars and cents, omitting small fractions:

1787.—1 day on Anderson Martin's business, £0, 8s, 0d—\$0.40; paid the Surveyor one dollar, 0, 7, 6—1.00; letters of administration, estate of D. Spafford, 0, 12, 0—1.60; survey of lot, 0, 8, 4—44; time spent settling with Smith and Baley, 0, 8, 9—50; searching the accounts, 0, 8, 9—50; costs of court, 0, 2, 4—81; settling with Avery & Downing, 0, 8, 9—50.

1788—Drawing power of attorney (Mr. Wells), 0, 1, 10—24; drawing a lease, 0, 3, 9—50; 2 bushels of oats, 0, 8, 9—50; 1 bushel of wheat, 0, 5, 0—68½; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 8, 9—50; 8 bushels of corn, 0, 9, 0—1.20; 4 bushels of potatoes, 0, 16, 0—2.18½; 7 lbs. of flax, 0, 4, 8—62; 10 dollars cash, 8, 15, 0—10.00; ¼ ton of hay, 1, 0, 0—3.38½; 174 rods of fence at 1s, 6 pence, 18, 1, 0—84.80.

1789—8 days' board, 0, 8, 0—1.06½; 2 days on bridge by Tuttle, 0, 7, 6—1.00; 1 lb. of tea, 0, 5, 0—68½; 1½ bushels of rye, 0, 4, 6—60; ½ bushel of flaxseed, 0, 1, 10—24; ½ ton of hay, 1, 0, 0—2.68½; 8 days keeping a horse, 0, 4, 0—38½; ½ bushel of potatoes, 0, 1, 8—16½; 1½ bushels of wheat, 0, 7, 6—1.00; 4½ bushels of oats, 6, 8, 10—1.17; my oxen one day, 0, 2, 0—28½.

1790—1 lb. of sugar, 0, 0, 10—11; 3 lbs. of tobacco, 0, 2, 0—26½; 1 bushel of potatoes, 0, 2, 6—38½; 1 bushel of rye, 0, 8, 8—46½; 2 bushels of oats, 0, 8, 9—50; 1½ bushels of wheat, 0, 7, 0—38½; ½ ton of hay, 1, 0, 0—2.68½; 20 bundles of straw, 0, 1, 8—22; 1½ lbs. of flax, 0, 1, 0—13½; 4 bushels buckwheat at 0, 8, 0—1.06½.

1791—1½ bushels of wheat, 0, 11, 8—1.50; ½ bushel of flax seed, 0, 1, 10—24; ½ bushel of potatoes, 0, 1, 8—16½; ½ ton of hay, 1, 0, 0—2.68½; 4½ cords of wood, 1, 18, 9—4.50; 2 bushels of buckwheat, 0, 4, 0—58½; 8 quarts of cider, 0, 0, 6—06½; 3 day's work, 0, 7, 6—1.00; on jury Bennett vs. Week, 0, 2, 0—26½; 14½ lbs. of flax, 0, 9, 10—1.81; 2 week's keeping your oxen, 0, 10, 0—1.33½; 68 lbs. pork (a pig), 0, 15, 9—2.10; 15 bundles of straw, 0, 1, 8—16½.

1792—½ ton of hay, 1, 5, 0—3.83½; 1 bushel of oats, 0, 1, 10—0.24; 149 lbs of pork,

2, 18, 10—7.84; 1 day my oxen, 0, 8, 0—40; 4 bushels of potatoes, 0, 8, 0—1.06½; 1 lb of butter, 0, 1, 8—16½; 1 bushel of peas, 0, 7, 6—1.00; 18½ lbs veal, 0, 6, 9—80; on the jury in Staples' case, 0, 2, 0—26½; 5 bushels of rye, 0, 15, 0—2.00; 10 bushels of buckwheat, 1, 0, 0—2.68½; 10 quarts of seed corn, 0, 1, 0—18½.

1793—2 bushels of corn, 0, 8, 0—1.06½; 1 lb. of butter, 0, 1, 0—13½; 1 bushel of potatoes, 0, 2, 6—38½; 1½ lbs. cheese, 0, 1, 0—13½; 10 lbs. of flour, 0, 1, 8—16½; 2 bushels of wheat, 0, 15, 0—2.00; 42 lbs. of beef, at 4 pence, 0, 14, 0—1.86½; 2 bushels of oats, 0, 3, 9—50; 2 bushels of rye, 0, 7, 6—1.00; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 2, 6—38½; carting a load of coal, 0, 8, 0—40; ½ bushel of peas, 0, 8, 9—50; 2 lbs. fat, (lard), 0, 1, 4—17; 3 lbs. tobacco, 0, 2, 0—26½; 25 bundles of straw and carting, 0, 8, 0—40.

1794—1 calf skin—0, 7, 6—\$1.00; 1½ day raking hay, 0, 5, 6—78½; 12 lbs. of pork, 0, 8, 0—1.06½; 1 bushel of corn, 0, 4, 0—58½; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 8, 9—50; 10 lbs. of beef, 0, 5, 0—68½; 2½ lbs. butter, 0, 8, 0—40; 4 bushels of rye, 0, 16, 10—2.24½; weaving 21½ yds. tow cloth, 1, 1, 9—2.90; weaving two handkerchiefs, 0, 8, 0—40; 1 lb. hatched flax, 0, 2, 0—26½; 2 bushels of potatoes, 0, 5, 0—68½; plowing 6 acres of corn, 0, 9, 0—1.20; 1½ bushels of wheat, 0, 11, 8—1.50; 1 bushel of turnips, 0, 1, 6—20.

1795—1½ bushels of rye at 5 shillings, £0, 7s, 6d—\$1.00; 22 lbs. of beef, 0, 9, 2—1.23; 1 lb. of butter, 0, 1, 8—16½; 4 lbs. of cheese, 0, 4, 0—58½; 13½ lbs. of veal, 0, 5, 0—68½; 8 lbs. of flax, 0, 8, 0—40; 3½ lbs. of tallow, 0, 4, 1—54; a yoke of oxen one day, 0, 8, 0—40; weaving four yards of cloth, 0, 4, 0—58½; one barrel, 0, 7, 6—1.00, 1½ day a horse to plow, 0, 2, 8—80; use of a plow one day, 0, 1, 0—18½.

1696—2 bushels of potatoes, 0, 6, 0—80; 6 lbs of pork, 0, 6, 0—80; 2 lbs of fat (lard), 0, 2, 0—26½; 1 lb of butter, 0, 1, 8—16½; 2 bushels of corn, 0, 8, 0—1.06½; 4 lbs of veal at 6 pence, 0, 2, 0—25½; 230 ft of siding, 0, 2, 0—26½; ferrriage, 0, 0, 9—10; 4 lbs of venison, 0, 1, 0—13½; ½ bushel of turnips, 0, 1, 0—18½; 1 bushel of rye, 0, 5, 0—68½; a horse to ride to Scoville, 0, 2, 6—88½; 2 bushels of buckwheat, 0, 6, 0—80; 1 lb of flax, 0, 4, 0—58½; 3 lbs of tallow, 0, 5, 8—70; 1½ bushels of wheat, 1, 2, 6—3.00; 1 cord of wood, 0, 7, 6—1.00; plowing 1½ acres of land, 0, 11, 3—1.50.

1797—1 day yoke of oxen, 0, 8, 0—40; 4½ lbs of pork, 0, 4, 6—60; 1½ lbs. of butter, 0, 1, 6—20; 1 lb. of tallow, 0, 1, 6—20; 4½ lbs. of beef, 0, 2, 8—30; 2 bushels of oats, 0, 6, 0—80; pay Holebord to run a line, 0, 5, 0—66½; horse 3 days to go to Salem and Huntington, 0, 10, 0—1.38½; 1 day yoke of



oxen, 0, 3, 0-40; 4 lbs. of flax, 0, 4, 0-58½.

1798-6¼ lbs. of beef, 0, 2, 2-28; 21 yards weaving, 1, 1, 0-280; 2 dozen pigeons, 0, 2, 0-26½; 1 bushel of rye, 0, 5, 0-86½; 1 bushel of corn, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 bushel of oats, 0, 2, 6-33½; 2 bushels of buckwheat, 0, 6, 0-80; 1 day cutting wood, 0, 3, 9-50; 11 lbs. of veal at 6 pence, 0, 5, 6-73½; 1 day yoke of oxen, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 ton of hay, 2, 5, 0-6.00; 3 lbs of flax, 0, 3, 0-40.

1799-½ bushel of corn, 0, 1, 10-24; 1 bushel of oats, 0, 2, 6-33½; 4 bushels of rye, 1, 0, 0-2 66½; 3¼ lbs of cheese, 0, 3, 6-46½; 2 quarts of milk, 0, 2, 0-26½; 6 lbs. of pork, 0, 3, 0-40; 9 lbs. of beef, 0, 4, 6-80; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 lb. of butter, 0, 1, 0-13½; 1 lb. of tobacco, 0, 1, 0-13½; 1 bushel of wheat, 0, 7, 6-100; 1 bushel of potatoes, 0, 3, 9-50; use of a bed 6 months, 0, 7, 6-1.00; 8 meals of vitals, 0, 8, 0-1.06½; lodging, (probably 3 nights), 0, 1, 0-13½; 6 lbs. of flax, 0, 6, 0-80; 10 bundles of straw, 0, 1, 5-21; on the jury, case of Lot and Love, 0, 2, 0-26½; 1 earthen poringer, 0, 0, 6-06½; 1 shirt, 0, 12, 6-1 66½.

1800-6 lbs. of salt pork, 0, 3, 0-40; 1¼ lbs. of tobacco, 0, 1, 9-23½; 2 bushels of buckwheat, 0, 6, 0-80; 2 quarts of salt, 0, 2, 0-26; 2½ lbs. of cheese, 0, 1, 8-22; a yoke of oxen 1 day, 0, 3, 0-40; 3 lbs. of butter, 0, 3, 9-50; quart of soap, 0, 0, 6-6½; 3 bushels of ashes, 0, 2, 0-26½; 1¼ bushels of rye, 0, 7, 6-1; 12¾ lbs. of beef, 0, 4, 3-58½; 2 lbs. of flax, 0, 2, 6-33½; 300 lbs. of hay, 0, 7, 6-1; \*½ bushel of beans, 0, 4, 0-53½; \*100 fresh shad, (April 24) 1, 13, 4-44; 1 day's work, 0, 3, 9-50; 28½ yards of weaving, 1, 4, 0-320.

1801-1 bushel of wheat, 0, 10, 0-1.33½; 2 yards of tow cloth, 0, 6, 0-80; 1 lb. of butter, 0, 1, 0-18½; 1 bushel of potatoes, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 3, 9-50; 2 day's work thrashing, 0, 6, 0-80; 11 lbs. of flax, 0, 18, 9-1 83½; a yoke of oxen one day, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 hog weighed 100 pounds, 2, 10, 0-6 66½; 12¼ lbs. of beef, 0, 4, 3-56½; 1½ day plowing, 0, 11, 3-1.50; 2¼ bushels of oats, 0, 6, 3-58½; \*2¼ lbs. of tobacco, 0, 5, 0-66½; \*2 lbs. of cheese at 8 pence, 0, 1, 4-17; \*12 lbs. of honey at 1s, 0, 12, 0-1 60.

1802-Two lbs. of candles, 0, 4, 6-80; 1 bushel of wheat, 0, 7, 0-93½; 1¼ lbs. of butter, 0, 1, 7-21; ½ ton of hay, 1, 10, 0-4 00; 2 bushels of buckwheat, 0, 6, 0-80; 1 bushel of oats, 0, 2, 6-33½; weaving 24 yards of cloth, 0, 18, 0-2.40; \*½ bushel of corn, 0, 1, 10-24; \*2¼ lbs. of tobacco, at 10 pence, 0, 2, 0-26½; \*1 weather sheep, four dollars, 1, 10, 0-4 00; \*4 bushels of rye, 0, 15, 0-2; \*2 yards linen cloth, 0, 7, 6-1.

1803-Two bushels of wheat, 0, 12, 6-1.66½; 14 lbs. of beef, 0, 5, 10-77; 5 lbs. of tallow, 0, 5, 0-66½; 1 bushel of buckwheat, 0, 3, 0-40; 1 bushel of corn, 0, 3, 9-50; 2 bushels of oats, 0, 5, 0-66½; 1 meal of victuals, 0, 1, 0-13½; 1 night's lodging, 0, 0, 4-4; 1 night keeping horse, 0, 1, 0-13½; \*1 yard striped linen cloth, 0, 3, 9-50; \*2 lbs. of wool, at 2s, 0, 4, 0-53½; \*3 pecks of salt, 0, 11, 3-1 50; \*2 days' work scoring, 0, 7, 6-1 00; \*1 lb roll tobacco, 0, 2, 0-26½; \*2 bushels of rye, 0, 7, 6-1.00; \*1¼ lb. leaf tobacco, 0, 1, 6-20; \*1¼ bushel of potatoes, 0, 3, 9-50; \*1 bushel of turnips, 0, 1, 6-20.

1804-2 lbs of pork, 0, 2, 0-26½; 14¼ lbs veal at 5 pence, 0, 6, 0-80; 1 lb of tobacco, 0, 1, 0-13½; \*1 bushel of wheat, 0, 7, 6-1 00; 2 bushels of rye, 0, 3, 0-1 06½; 1¼ bushels of potatoes, 0, 3, 9-50; 14¼ lbs venison, 0, 3, 8-48

H. B. PLUMS.

\* The items marked with a star are taken from the accounts of his son Elisha Blackman, Jr., of Hanover.

#### A Michigan Man in Town.

The RECORD had a pleasant call, Sept 20, from Mr. J. J. Smith, of Walled Lake, Mich. Mr. Smith, who has been a reader of the RECORD as long as he can remember, and thinks so much of it that he pays his subscription a year or two in advance, left the Wyoming Valley 31 years ago. He has a farm 80 miles from Detroit, and in addition to this he is engaged in the manufacture of school and church furniture. The contract for furnishing the new Methodist Church at Wyoming was filled by him. Mr. Smith's father was the owner of the farm near Luzerne, afterwards purchased by Mr. Maltby. He is fond of returning to Pennsylvania every few years, but is entirely satisfied with his Michigan home.

#### The New Bridge Open.

An important event in the history of the city occurred on Sept. 1, when the North St. iron bridge was opened to traffic. The construction of the bridge was a laudable enterprise, involving the expenditure of \$170,000. It puts Wilkes-Barre in constant communication with the suburb in which many of the business men reside, and with the section of the country from whence its principal country custom comes. The new enterprise has been pushed forward in the face of many difficulties, and with commendable energy. It is pleasant to think that the men who have carried it through are likely to be well paid for the capital invested and have in the structure an enduring monument to their pluck.

**PENNSYLVANIANS IN VIRGINIA.**

**A Decent Burial for One of the Early Martyrs of the War—Poem by a Former Luzerne County Lady.**

Mrs. Mary Dale Culver Evans, formerly of Luzerne County, sends the RECORD an account of the finding of the bones of one of the martyrs of rebellion days and their burial at Oakvale, Mercer Co., W. Va. Mrs. Evans says:

This was the first time the stars and stripes have been unfolded here since President (then Colonel) Hayes and his forces encamped in the Valley of East River in 1862. Since living here (over three years) while standing on the sides of the Allegheny Mountains, that overlook this valley, I have had places pointed out to me by the citizens where Union men were murdered, on account of their principles. It was the occasion of the burial of the bones of one of these victims that the day was observed; and this was done, too, mostly by persons not natives of the place. I would not have you think that the masses of the people are as ignorant as in the days before railroads and free schools found their way here; it is not that, but old time teachers have been mostly employed, and love of country, as taught by our fathers; has been left by Bourbon rule out of the program. Most of the older people remember Gen. Lee, but have never heard much about George Washington. The Fourth of July is never celebrated here. Hence you might find young men here who can read Latin and solve problems in algebra, who have never seen the United States flag, except as pictured in books. So when a real flag appeared at the depot it created a sensation. The donor was Wm. P. Woods, of Lewiston, Pa., who is connected with a lumbering interest here; he with the Methodist minister (not southern) on this charge, Rev. Art L. Hughes, and his brother, Robert E. Hughes, were instrumental in having the bones of Frank Journell given a decent and honorable burial. Messrs Brown and Nattier, also Pennsylvanians, assisted in the work. The pall bearers were Republicans and all radical Union men, but who had been Confederate soldiers through compulsion. The coffin was covered with black cloth, and a flag with some choice flowers was placed upon the grave. The religious services were conducted by Mr. Hughes, and a brief history of the man and his cowardly murder was given by Hon. George Evans, of this place. The exercises were closed by R. E. Hughes reading a poem written

for the occasion by Mary Dale Culver Evans:

We'll cover them over the bones of the dead,  
Bring laurels and myrtle to strew o'er his bed,  
The bones that were bleaching now honored  
shall be,  
By patriot hearts in the land of the free.  
Twice a decade of years had passed o'er his form,  
Full twenty long summers and winters of storm.  
Ere the lone spot was found where martyr he  
died,  
Cut down by assassins in manhood's full pride.  
He died for his country, the holiest cause,  
For Union, for Freedom, for Liberty's laws;  
When treason ran rampant and sought to destroy  
The gift of our fathers unmixed with alloy.  
The land next to heaven we prize as our own,  
Where religion and science twin sisters have  
grown.  
'Neath the stars and the stripes, we love as a  
friend  
The time honored banner he sought to defend.  
Bring out from the forest the mouldering bones  
From the gloom of the rock house, those senti-  
nel stones,  
Mute witnesses they of the torturing pain,  
When the victim to treason by ruffians was slain.  
Oh, cover them over and leave them to rest,  
With memorial honors over his breast;  
And rear a just tablet the story to tell,  
To the youth of our country the fate of Journell.

**John W. Fowler, of Bath**  
[Bath (N. Y.) Plain-Dealer.]

Mathias Hollenback was a pioneer merchant and banker in Northern Pennsylvania and New York, and among the first settlers at Wilkes Barre. An old building once occupied by him was torn down the other day. It was built more than seventy years ago. In the crevices, etc., a great many old papers and documents were found. The RECORD of that city copies the following: "one bill of lading, dated Philadelphia, March 5, 1818, is a bill of Frederick Nagle, of Philadelphia, consigned to Mr. Kendall, to be sold on commission for John W. Fowler, of Bath, N. Y. The latter was in frequent correspondence with the Wilkes-Barre store, and depended on it for much of the supply of his store in Bath. Under date of Feb. 4, 1818, he consigns Mr. Kendall 4 barrels of whisky, at 75 cents per gallon. He says, 'it is really good, such as you can recommend. Be good enough to send me some tobacco, all you have to spare, also some bombazett, which is in great demand here—also some pins. If the teamsters want any loading send me nails. A most any article will sell here and now is the season to procure grain. Let me know where you want the arks landed so as to accommodate you to discharge the cargoes. I am putting the wheat up in flour barrels.'"

John W. Fowler will be remembered as an estimable gentleman, who was a merchant

in this village in 1818. He subsequently became a clerk in the Pulteney Land Office until his death. It gives us some notion of the business centres and prices in the long, long ago. Deacon Fowler was an honest man as ever lived and his recommendation of even good whisky could be relied on.

#### ANCIENT SUNBURY.

Some of the Historical Associations of That Old Town, Once the Abode of King Shikellimy and now the Tarrying Point for Multitudes of Belated Travelers.

Sunbury is noted everywhere as the place where one must change cars and usually the change is attended with a more or less tedious delay. It is a historic town and played an important part in the Indian troubles of nearly a century and a half ago. In those early days it was not known by its modern name, but by the name of Shamokin, which name, by a singular transposition now belongs to a town 20 miles to the south-east. Through old Shamokin passed the great Indian paths and it was the most important settlement south of Tioga Point, it being the residence of the vice king. It was first visited by the whites in 1728 at which time it was a populous Indian town.

Here dwelt Shikellimy, one of the most remarkable aborigines connected with the troublous early history of Pennsylvania. Here he died and here are to be seen what are believed to have been the implements and ornaments that belonged to him in life. They are in the possession of M. L. Hendricks who has a most valuable museum of Indian relics and who not long ago exhibited them to a Record visitor who was waiting over between trains. Mr. Hendricks has been collecting these archeological treasures for over 30 years and is always pleased to show them to appreciative callers.

Shikellimy was by birth an Oneida, and having an executive mind and more than ordinary ability he occupied a conspicuous place in the government of the Six Nations. He was the leading sachem for the Susquehanna region, and had his seat of authority at Shamokin, now Sunbury, where the two branches of the river converge. He was highly regarded by the whites, and was an important factor in every treaty from 1728 to 1748, and it is said of him that he never violated his word. He died in 1748, and was given a Christian burial by the Moravian missionary, Zeisberger. They made him a coffin, painted the corpse with bright colors, and placed in his coffin the implements used by him in life.

Mr. Hendricks had peculiar facilities for obtaining mortuary relics as the burying

ground of the region was on his father's farm. Of all the graves opened only one contained a wooden coffin, and this is believed to be the coffin of Shikellimy. The body had been placed east and west. In the grave were hundreds of beads made of glass, bone and amber, mostly European make. There were also three copper finger rings, with clasped hands on one; bells and dangles for leggins; copper or brass bracelets; iron tobacco box, with tobacco still in it; fishing line; a needle, a sixteenth of an inch thick, eye one-fourth of an inch; English copper coins; knife of English make, glass bottles, gun barrel, iron tomahawk, flint arrow points, iron pipe of peace and tomahawk combined, white clay pipe; stone paint pot, partly filled with vermilion; copper medal with portrait of George III on one side and an Indian with bow and arrow on the other, in the act of shooting a deer.

Mr. Hendricks has all these trinkets in a neat case made out of wood from the ruins of Fort Augusta, which was built here in 1755 by the Provincial Government and played an important part in the border warfare of the region.

Another curious relic exhumed by Mr. Hendricks was a stone whistle, three inches long and half as wide. On one side is the rude carving of a face and by blowing into it a whistling sound can be produced. Persons who care to go into this subject of Shikellimy and his model reign will find it worked out in a most interesting fashion by Col. J. F. Meginnis, of Williamsport, in his new and admirable edition of the History of the West Branch Valley, now passing through the hands of the printer. It is being issued in parts, the subscription for the whole being \$3. Many of the relics are illustrated.

Having inspected the valuable collection of Mr. Hendricks—which by the way is for sale and ought to be looked into by the Historical Society—the Record visitor called on Dr. Richard H. Awi, one of the old citizens of Sunbury, who is an authority on the history of the region, and who has written largely on the subject. He is a most genial gentleman, with a large practice, a good library, and some curious relics. He is in some way related to Plunkett, who came up the Susquehanna in 1775 with the Pennamite troops to invade Wyoming and who was so disastrously defeated at Nanticoke by the home guard of the valley under Capt. Butler and Stewart. To persons of antiquarian tastes a visit to Dr. Awi will be amply repaid.

One of the features of the picturesque scenery at Sunbury is Blue Hill, a rugged cliff overlooking the Susquehanna and which from a certain point presents what

athletic imaginations pronounce a profile of the face of the vanished chieftain, Shikellimy. It has been embalmed in verse by Hon. T. H. Purdy, in his *Legends of the Susquehanna*. In this volume Mr. Purdy has woven a very pretty story of Shikellimy's wooing and his subsequent noble life. It was Shikellimy's son, Logan, who was said to have made the speech of revenge, so familiar to school boys, his family having been murdered by the whites in Ohio. This cruel slaughter curdled the milk of human kindness in his breast, and he never lay down the scalping knife until he had killed 13 whites, one for each member of his family.

#### A PIONEER PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Andrew Bedford, of Waverly, Registers in His Eighty-eighth Year—The Venerable Physician's Early Experience in This Section.

[Scranton Truth, Sept. 4.]

Probably the oldest physician that ever registered at the prothonotary's office is Dr. Andrew Bedford, of Waverly, aged 88, who placed his name on the list to-day as a practicing physician, although nearly fifty years have passed since he was actively engaged in medical work. Dr. Bedford was born in Kingston, Luzerne County, and commenced the practice of medicine in 1824.

The doctor relates that when purchasing his first bill of medicine in Philadelphia before entering practice, the druggists recommended a remedy called quinine, that had just been discovered by a French physician. At that time the word quinine was not in the English dictionaries. The young physician secured a quantity of the new medicine which afterward became so well known and was probably one of the first doctors in the State to prescribe the preparation known as quinine.

In 1838 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and relinquished active medical duties in 1840, at which time he was elected prothonotary and clerk of the courts for Luzerne County.

The doctor held the office for six years, residing at the time at Abington. Dr. Bedford celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday last April, and is still hale and hearty and able to relate many interesting and amusing anecdotes in reference to pioneer life in the valley.

Although not practicing medicine regularly, Dr. Bedford occasionally prescribes remedies in his son's drug store at Waverly. Under the law he found that he had no right to prescribe any preparation unless registered as a physician, and was therefore registered to-day to be able to legally prescribe as occasion requires.

#### The Old Redoubt All Gone.

Contractor A. H. Ooon has completed the work of removing the rocky ridge on the Thos. P. Hunt lot between Jackson Street and the point left by the Lehigh Valley R.R. in the work of demolishing the historic redoubt. The ridge was about thirty feet in height, composed of some hard rock fit for building stone, some soft rock, clay, slate and about four feet in thickness of inferior coal that cropped out on the southern side. The material after being blasted down was carted away to make filling on the Kingston flats for the new road from the North Street bridge to the Kingston main thoroughfare, at the residence of Mrs. Reynolds. A small army of Italian and Hungarian laborers, and a score or more of teams have been hard at work the greater part of the summer on the job, which is now complete, thus fulfilling the scriptural saying that in these latter days the valleys shall be exalted and the mountains brought low. The "redoubt," once a prominent object to old Wilkes-Barre boys, is now a thing of the past and the place that once knew it will know it no more forever. Its site is traversed by trains of railroad cars bearing culm to fill up the bed of the canal now nearly obliterated.

#### Mrs. Catharine Rhoads' Will.

The will of Mrs. Catharine Rhoads, late of Lake Township, was probated August 25. It directs that the monument over her grave in Hollenback Cemetery shall not exceed over \$300 in cost; that Charles E. Rhoads, her son, receive in addition to his share in the decedent's estate, \$400; that her piano be given Caroline Engle, of Hazleton, her daughter; that Aimee W. Rhoads, her youngest daughter, be allowed \$800 for a piano and that said daughter shall receive \$100 annually for three years if she does not marry, though if the Lake House be sold within three years Miss Aimee shall receive \$200 per annum. The house is not to be for sale in five years, however, unless by written agreement of all the heirs. The dark gray mare becomes the property of George W. Rhoads. The residue of the estate is to be equally divided among her ten children: Frank H., Aaron W., Eugene A., Charles E., James B., William G., Byron E. and George B. Rhoads and Caroline E. Engle and Aimee W. Rhoads.

The executors are Frank H., Aaron W. and Eugene Rhoads. The document, which bears the date November 24, 1897, is witnessed by W. L. Rainow and E. K. Morse.

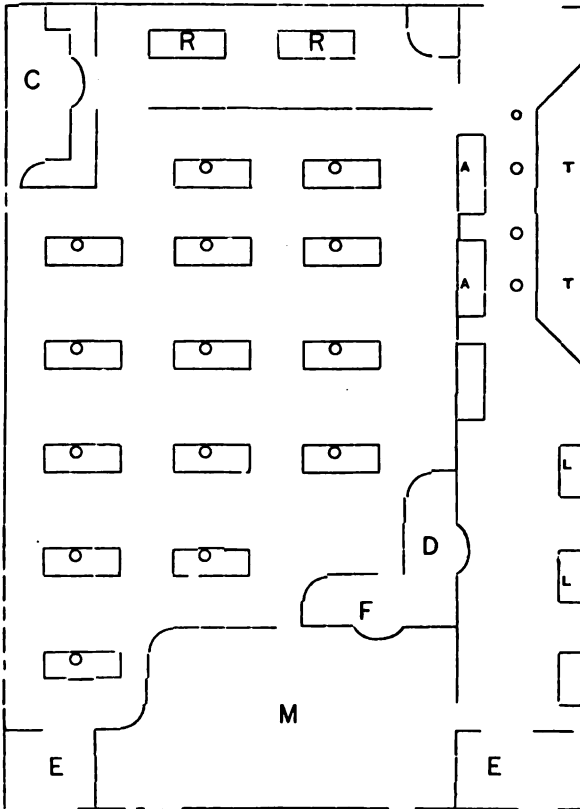
**THE OSTERHOUT FREE LIBRARY.**

**What is Being Done to Fit it for Public Use—A Diagram and Description of the Interior.**

The consummation of any great enterprise requires time, sometimes lots of it, and the utmost care in the perfection of details. A number of months have elapsed since the rear room of the old Presbyterian Church was given over to the use of those who began the work of paving the way for the opening of the Osterhout Free Library. As soon as they could be received and cared for, boxes of books began to arrive. Then the books were labeled with the proper

cards, catalogued and shelved. Such a small part of the whole work was this, however, that impatience began to be manifested by many who considered that only a few days, or weeks, at the utmost, should intervene between the time of receiving the books from the wholesale dealers, and giving them out to be read, studied and thumbed by hundreds of people. A glance, even a superficial one, at the work required for preparing the books for shelving and subsequent distribution, should convince the most impatient that *haste*, in an enterprise of this kind, should be made with great deliberation.

The work has already gone along favorably, and the progress thus far is satisfactory.



But a few days had intervened after the pews were removed from the body of the old church, until the preparations for transforming the room into a full fledged library, were commenced in earnest. From that time until now the work has been going on as rapidly as was consistent with the elaborate detail required.

The old floor was over laid with two thicknesses of asbestos, on top of which was spread a floor of Georgia pine. The stained glass, which had for long years thrown shadows of varicolored light into the room, and from which the mellowest tints had been reflected into the deep recesses of the beautifully vaulted roof—all this was removed and replaced by plain glass, affording a generous flood of light, to which the interior had hitherto been quite unaccustomed.

Once inside the interior one is impressed with the beauty and singular appropriateness of the whole. The main entry, E, is at the northeast corner, and directly in front of this stretches away an open space the entire length of the room. The wall is its boundary on the one side, and a low railing divides it from the space in which the book shelves, OOO, are placed at intervals. At the left as one enters, a small door or gateway, as it really is, admits into the magazine room, M, which will contain all the best papers and magazines on file. The delivery desk for the magazine room is at F.

Further along the extended space is the general delivery desk, D, opposite which, and against the wall, are placed settees for the comfort and convenience of patrons. But a little distance on from the main delivery are the card catalogue cases, A, containing sets of drawers. These will include the complete guide of books, detailing general subject, authors, and titles. It is very complete, and a great amount of the preliminary work has been the preparation of this excellent card catalogue system. Reference is thus rendered quick and accurate. The printed catalogues will be placed on a long table, T, against the wall and opposite the card system.

The book cases will be placed at intervals on the main floor. These are double cases, of solid oak, about 8 feet long and 8 feet high.

At the west end of the room is a space which will be separated from its surroundings by curtains. Here the books are to be covered and tables B, are placed for the work. This place communicates by means of a window with the cataloguing room C, where the invoices will be received immediately upon their arrival at the left entry.

The beauty of the arrangement, added to the exquisitely graceful arches of the ceiling, make an effect which gives one a pleasant start of surprise. Surely no better place could have been found. The huge pillars which in the church days impaired the hearing and hindered the sight, seem quite in place here, and add a considerable part to the surroundings. The gallery which used to hold the organ, has been removed, and from the immense front window is shed a flood of light into the magazine room and the whole interior.

The light in the day time will of course be ample, as has been shown. The light in the evening will be the incandescent, and there will be plenty of it. Heat will be furnished throughout by steam.

Attractive as is the main room, the apartment at the rear, which will be used as a reference library, containing about a thousand volumes, will be the gem of all. This will be prettily carpeted, and a fireplace of unique design will be built into the wall. The walls are to be covered with a cheerful tint, and a dozen or more tables, with easy chairs, will fill the interior space. Each table will have a separate light, and the room itself will be at all times as accessible as the main library.

Wilkes-Barreans, when the library is formally opened, will be greatly pleased with the work in general, and the completeness in detail. The number of volumes will be about 10,000, and it is hoped that the doors will be thrown open to the public about October 1, or thereabouts. At that time, when the whole system is examined and understood, the immense amount of work will be appreciated, and the unanimous verdict will be most complimentary to those in whose hands the preparation was intrusted.

As to the exterior, the grounds will be graded and a fresh green lawn will surround the building. A fence will mark the line between this property and that of Dr. Taylor. The fence will be covered with trained vines making a solid wall of green, and on the surface hollyhocks will blossom in bewildering profusion.

The exterior of the building may be painted within a year or two, but there is no thought of alteration at present.

#### An Old Wilkes-Barrean.

J. W. Chapman, of Montrose, writes as follows to the *Republican* of that place concerning an item reprinted from the *Record*:

The *Republican* copied a few weeks ago a notice of "A Hale Old Wilkes-Barrean" named V. Tracey—a relative of mine—who went West over sixty years ago, and after residing some time in Illinois, spent a few

years in California then moved back to Iowa, and now resides in Dakota, being remarkably active and vigorous for a man of upward of eighty-five years. A letter which I received from him recently mentions his being somewhat acquainted with the early citizens of Montrose, having worked here awhile as a journeyman wagon maker in the winter of 1825, and taking his turn on the night patrol guarding the prison against the threatened rescue of Treadwell for a short time before his execution. He says in reference to his health and early habits: "There are three things I was determined to avoid, viz: strong drink, the use of tobacco and never to be called a Democrat; and I have kept my vow."

#### An Old Masonic Song.

The following manuscript lines in the possession of C. M. Williams, of Plains, were found among the papers of his father, the late Moses Williams, who died in 1847, it bearing date in his father's writing, Dec. 28, 1817. The former says his father was fond of singing the verses, though he was not a mason. Does anybody know who the author was? May it not have emanated from the pen of the late Charles Miner, who was an enthusiastic mason and a writer of verse as well:

When Sol with grave motion had plunged in the ocean,

And twilight hung over the borders of day,  
A splendid reflection, with downright direction,  
Stole softly the senses of mortals away.

My thoughts were suspended and darkness descended.

And night's sable canopy widely unfurled;  
In solemn progression, the mist in succession  
Bade twilight in silence retire from the world.

I saw in sweet slumber a beautiful creature  
Replete with electrical, transporting glee;  
With rapture I trembled, I thought he resembled  
Some beautiful object of humanity.

My fancy it caught him, home with me I brought him,

And with my own heart-strings I bound him  
With care;

Nor could I unloose him, for in his soft bosom,  
I saw the best image that mortals can wear.

I thought he said to me, "In vain you pursue me—

While on the swift wing of silence I soar;  
But if you will hasten and become a free mason,

Then you may go with me—but never before."

There's one thing 'tis certain, and truly diverting.

The keeping in friendship a secret so long;  
There's no combination so firm as free masons,  
No bond of sweet friendship so lasting and strong.

#### Old Masonic Song.

EDITOR RECORD: In your issue of October 6th you published an old song which doubtless interested many besides myself. Having in my possession quite a collection of Masonic songs, many of which were composed a century or more ago, I thought it more than likely that Mr. Williams' manuscript copy might have been made from one of these old-time productions, and that I would be able to find it among my collection. My search for it was, however, fruitless, and your suggestion of its probable local origin, is perhaps the most reasonable that can be made.

If this is not the correct solution, some one of your many readers should be able to ascertain its authorship. While the verses are not without some literary defects, they yet rise so far above the ordinary versification of the time when they were written—Dec. 28, 1817—as to make the question of their origin far more interesting.

To facilitate this search for the author I will here quote the first stanza, which is particularly fine:

"When Sol with grave motion had plunged in the ocean,

And twilight hung over the borders of day,  
A splendid reflection, with downright direction,  
Stole softly the senses of mortals away."

Whoever wrote that stanza, had in him at least the material out of which the poets are made. Who, then, will solve this mystery of authorship, and point us to other productions of an evidently gifted pen?

Fruitless as was my search for this particular poem, I did find and read with an eager delight, many others which were exceedingly fine, and, it may be added, the authorship of which is quite as mysterious.

In a book published in 1805, and given to me by an old Mason of blessed memory (Daniel Long), who has long since joined the Grand Lodge above, I find an ode under the caption, "The Origin of Masonry," the first stanza of which I quote:

"The lodge was convened when the Lord from the East

Gave the word—and abolished rude night;  
The members celestial revered the behest,

With increasing Masonic delight;  
Cherubic *Arch-wardens* the *Master* adored,

Creation displayed all her charms;  
Circumpection, *Arch-deacon*, the fabric explored,

*Tyler* time, turned the globes in his arms.  
The spheres were encompassed and order proclaimed.

By the *line* and the *rule* was the edifice framed,  
While a splendor through realms of immensity

shone.

On the base of the orbs from their apex the throne."

This ode contains four additional stanzas, each displaying the same literary taste and poetic genius as the above. There is noth-

ing in the book to suggest its authorship beyond the brief superscription, "Composed by a Brother."

This book contains many other songs more or less meritorious, and is regarded as a souvenir of considerable interest.

In another book, published under Masonic auspices in 1819, is a full description of the impressive ceremonies of the Union Lodge in Dorchester, Jan. 7, A. L. 5800, in memory of the illustrious brother Washington, whose death had occurred on the 14th of the preceding month. The ode sung on that occasion is so brief, and yet so beautiful, that I venture to give it entire. Like those referred to above, its authorship is shrouded in the deepest mystery.

#### DIREG.

While all our nation whelmed in grief,  
Lament their general, patriot, chief;  
Let us, his brethren, long revere  
A name to masonry so dear.

In mystic rites our lodge displays  
Its sorrows and its patron's praise,  
And spreads fresh garlands round the tomb,  
Where the sweet oasis long shall bloom.

Look to the East; its splendors fall,  
The lesser lights grow dim and pale—  
The glory once reflected here,  
Now dawns upon a higher sphere.

Trusting that the extracts I have made may be of interest to many of your readers. I remain yours truly,  
S. JAY AUSTIN.  
Oct. 9, 1888.

[It may be interesting to add that the RECORD's suggestion that the song was the composition of Charles Miner is regarded as more than probable by those who knew Mr. Miner. Besides this, there was evidently a warm friendship between the Williams and Miner families, as the present owner of the manuscript bears the name of Charles Miner Williams.—EDITOR.]

#### An Ancient Church.

EDITOR RECORD: There is up among the beautiful hills of Bradford County a monument finer than the finest granite—a monument to the piety, perseverance and thrift of the ancestors of the present generation. It is an old church, nearly one hundred years old, situated in the midst of the graves where lie the bones of the builders. Some of the old gravestones bear the date of 1820. The interior has not a stroke of paint; four rude posts support a gallery which runs around three sides and extends nearly over the back of the church, and is thus capable of seating nearly as many as the first floor. The seats are rough benches, but the most curious part is the pulpit, standing between the doors (one for the women and the other for the men). It is reached by two flights

of stairs on either side and when one gains the top he finds himself in a circular box, and before him lies the ancient bible, which shows use, as well as age. The pulpit holds six ministers; in front is the altar. No carpet covers the rough floor. No stained glass in the windows "shedding a dim, religious light." Here it stands on an eminence, an object for the elements to play upon. The church is not used, except in August, when the people come together for a yearly meeting, which commences on Friday night, and continues until Sunday night. We attended Sunday afternoon, and were much interested in the services. The people come from all parts of the county, bringing their luncheon with them, and stay all day. One thousand were there on Sunday. While waiting for the ministers, the time was taken up in singing "Rest for the Weary," and other old familiar hymns. All praise to the people of Bradford County for keeping in repair, and holding the annual meeting in this respected old landmark. H.

#### An Old Mess Account.

In the daily issue of the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, p. 126, et seq., is an interesting transcript of "a mess account kept at Valley Forge and during Gen. Sullivan's Indian expedition, from 1778 to 1780, by Tjerck Beekman, lieutenant in the 2d N. Y. Continental Regiment. The original is at Kingston, N. Y., in the possession of the lieutenant's granddaughter, Mrs. Mary W. Van Deusen.

Here is one of the entries, a pound being reckoned at \$2 50:

"Ensign Brown, John, Dr. to cash, £2, 14s., 8d., paid at Wyoming for whisky."

Liquor was quite a conspicuous item in the mess, though the above charge could not have represented a large quantity of it, judging from subsequent entries: Feb. 27, 1780. 1 pint of whisky, 12 dollars; 1 quart rum, 32 dollars; 6 gills whisky, 18 dollars; 1 pint brandy, 16 dollars.

There are several entries for "opening the eye," which does not appear to have been a surgical operation. Whatever it was, it cost from one dollar to twenty, and it would appear to have been the "opening" of certain liquid refreshments, with which the expedition was well supplied.

Many of the charges are for cash, showing that the officers and men entrusted their money to Lieut. Beekman. Several charges are for "playing Lue" and two or three men are charged 10 shillings each for a pumpkin.

In the August number of the *Magazine of American History* is given the journal of Lieut. Beekman, kept during the Sullivan Expedition and never before published.



## SOME INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

## Recollections of One of the Oldest Natives of Wyoming Valley—Incidents of the Early Part of the Century.

[The following reminiscences of Mrs. Julia Anna Blackman Plumb, now living in Hanover, at the age of 82, were written down by her son, H. B. Plumb.]

I was born in 1808. My brother Harry went to Nanticoke to live about 1818 when I was about twelve years old. John P. Arndt owned the Forge there and a saw mill and other mills, and Harry was a good mechanic, and Arndt got him to move down there and repair and build machinery for the mills and Forge. He lived there about two years. On the way there, Askam's house was the first next to us, on the middle road. He had lived there some years then.

John Shafer lived where Harvey Holcomb afterwards lived, where the cross road turns off toward the river road. I think Pruner lived at the mill on that cross road that afterwards Jonathan Robins owned, near where the Dundee shaft now is. Henry Sively lived in the little house on the river road, where this Robins or Pruner cross road comes into the river road. Jesse Orisman once lived in this little house, and perhaps lived there at the time I am speaking of. Sively owned it afterwards, and about 1838 George Koker owned it and lived in it, and died there about 1850, I should think. The Pruner or Robins cross road, I think, went straight on, at that time, across the river road there, and on down to the river at the mouth of the creek that comes in there. Down the river road towards Nanticoke, the next house was Mr. Andrus', where Barnett Miller afterwards lived. A man by the name of Ebenezer Brown lived at the Pruner, or Robins mill, at that time. He had sons—Daniel and Harry. Mr. Brown had known father in Connecticut before they came here. Father was studying surveying at a school, and Brown was a scholar at the same school. Father was a young man then in Connecticut after the Revolutionary war was over, and before he came back here in 1786. Brown lived at the mill only a couple of years. He moved to Kingston, and lived at the west end of the Wilkes-Barre River Bridge. This would be about 1820. I think there was at that time a log house standing below the Andrus house, towards Nanticoke, two stories high, the upper story the largest, projecting out over the lower one all around the house. It was built during the Indian wars to protect the people from the Indians. Mother's maiden name was Anna Hurlbut, and she lived about a mile above this house towards Wilkes Barre. I think old Mr.

George Koker, the first of the family here in Hanover, lived in it. The Pells lived lived next below, towards Nanticoke, where Samuel Pell afterwards lived. The Pells, instead of a barn to keep their hay in like us, had large, square stacks outside, with great square posts at the corners and a roof thatched with straw over the stack, and as the hay was taken off and the stack got lower, they would let the roof down to be near the top of the hay. The son, Josiah Pell, was in the Indian battle at Wyoming where father was, and afterwards in the army, and after the war lived with his father a great many years. The old man got married to a young wife, and gave all his property to her children, and the son, Josiah, (the father's name was Josiah, too) moved, I think, up the Susquehanna River somewhere. Father used to meet him on the jury afterwards. James Lee lived in the house beyond the Nanticoke Creek, called Lee's Creek there, in a nice, large house. Esquire Samuel Jameson lived on the left side of the road next beyond Lee's. It looked like a frame house that he lived in, but I think likely as not, it was log inside. I don't remember any house at that time on the River road, where Robert Robins' house was afterward built, where he lived and died. The Mills lived on the right beyond, and down in the fields toward the river, there was an old log house and two or three barns, and a nice new house. Mr. Anheuser, a son-in-law of Mr. Mill, had a store in a pretty nice house on the road. The old log house down in the field near the barn took fire, and it and three barns were burned. My brother Harry and Jesse Orisman were there. There was not much of anything in the barns. It was just before haying and harvesting. After the fire Mr. Anheuser moved to Wilkes-Barre and kept a store there. I understand that Mrs. Anheuser is still alive and living in Wilkes Barre. She must be very old. The next building, I think, was the schoolhouse. That was before the schoolhouse and church combined was built. When the church and schoolhouse combined was built, Charles Plumb, my husband, built the pulpit in the church part. The church room was over the school room. There was a house beyond the schoolhouse where Thomas Bennett kept a tavern. He married a daughter of old Mr. George Espy. Alexander's store and house had not been built in 1818, and it was near this time when Mill's house and barns were burnt, I should think. The road here, a little ways from Bennett's tavern, turned down towards the river, towards Lee's mill. I can't remember how things were arranged down there by the creek, near the mill. Harry lived in the first house on the left across the creek, I think, and then a road

turned off to the left down into Newport, and then across that road there were two or three more houses along the road near-by towards Col. Lee's, and then a large, nice house in which John P. Arndt lived. Arndt had two sons while he lived in Wilkes-Barre before he moved to Nanticoke, Philip and Hamilton. Philip was drowned in the Susquehanna River while trying to catch driftwood, and I think his body was never found.

I think the first school I ever went to was up on the Middle road, near Lorenzo Ruggies', in some one's private house, across the creek from his house, and below it, southwest of it. I wasn't more than four or five years old then. We didn't call it but a mile from our house then, but now it is about two miles. Lydia Richards was the teacher. What makes me remember the school is that she would put her switch or stick on the noses of the disobedient to hold there without touching it with their hands. There were three disobedient at one time and they were made to hold up their faces so that the whip would lie across the noses of all at once, and not fall off, and then they yelled. I remember among the scholars Ruth Edgerton, Rachael Hoover and Phoebe Wright. I only remember these three. Ruth Edgerton married Anthony Wilkeson. Lydia Richards was a sister of Elijah Richards, of Wright Township, afterwards. The next school I attended was on the "Green," about two miles or more off. The teacher was a Scotchman. The scholars that I remember were myself, Elisha and Betsy Blackman and Maria Askam. Maria Askam afterwards married Thomas Brown, and lived about forty years at what is now called Newtown, in Hanover, adjoining the Wilkes-Barre line on the back road. They removed to Iowa. I don't remember any others. At Behee's mill pond, on the road to this school, there was a saw mill close to the dam and they were sawing logs. We could go into the mill right off the dam. The dam was also the road there as it is now—across the creek, and the children would frequently go into the sawmill and sit on the log as it was being sawed. I sat on one once with Maria Askam. I think Ludwig Rummage owned Behee's mill when I went to school first on "The Green," but it may have been later a few years. Behee owned it when I was 12 years old anyway. The school house stood on the hill top at "The Green" and the unfinished church stood to the left of it. This was about 1811-12. They had meetings in the church sometimes though. Father said he used frequently to sit in the upper story of that church and look over here towards his own house to see if it took fire from the fires in the woods in the spring and fall.

Nobody lived over back here then but he, or nearer than the Middle Road, nearly a mile off, and the fires used to burn in the woods clear to the middle road at Askam's; but that must have been before 1808. Askam sometimes used to live in a little log house near South Wilkes-Barre on the Middle Road at Soloman's Creek. He was a tailor by trade, but he would rather do peddling than anything else, and so he wanted to live near town. In his peddling excursions he had been, he said, to Canada twenty-one times.

[To be continued.]

#### George Catlin, the Artist.

There has been issued from the Government Printing Office a bulky volume of nearly 1,000 pages, looking no more interesting outside than do the general grist of "Pub. Doce," but whose contents are of singular interest. It is devoted to a man who was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1796 and who did more to perpetuate the characteristics of the American Indians than any other man. We refer to George Catlin, the celebrated artist, who died so recently as 1872. His father, Putnam Catlin, was a Revolutionary soldier, who moved to Wilkes-Barre from Litchfield, Conn., in 1787, where he became a lawyer of eminence. In 1789 he married Polly Sutton, daughter of James Sutton, of Exeter, she having been born there 19 years before. They had 14 children, of whom George, the fifth, was born in Wilkes-Barre July 28, 1796. The Catlin family removed from Wilkes-Barre to Broome Co., New York, the year after George was born. The boy's childhood was filled with stories of Indians and Indian life, his grandparents and his mother all having been in the bloody fight of July 3, 1778. His boyhood was filled with legends of Indian lore, from the lips of Revolutionary soldiers, Indian fighters, trappers, hunters and explorers, and it was not strange that his subsequent life took the direction which it did. He read law at Litchfield, Conn., in 1818, and the following year he returned to Wilkes-Barre, where he practiced law for three or four years, at the end of which time he abandoned his profession to become an artist, the direction to which his native talents, unmistakably called him. He practiced his art successfully in the larger cities of the east, but at the age of 33, (1829,) he determined to devote himself to the rescuing from oblivion, the looks and customs of the vanishing races of the native man in America. It was a high and noble ambition, worthily conceived and most faithfully executed. Mr. Catlin became an enthusiast in his work, which he followed from

1828, until his death in 1871. In all civilized lands his name became a familiar one, and he received many earthly distinctions and honors in his lifetime, but few pecuniary rewards. He never received any financial aid from societies or governments, and he died as he lived—a poor man.

Mr. Catlin spent eight years among some 50 of the Indian tribes of the far West and in 1839 took his collection to Europe where he exhibited it before delighted audiences in all the large cities during several seasons. His tour was mainly successful, though in Paris in 1852, he met with financial disaster, his collection being saved by a philanthropic Philadelphian, who returned it to America, though it was never again opened to public view during the life time of its distinguished maker. It has since found its way as a gift of the family of the Philadelphian referred to, into the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Catlin had tried for years, but in vain, to induce Congress to buy the collection, but to the National shame no helping hand was ever outstretched to the self-sacrificing artist.

In the publication issued by the Government, Mr. Thomas Donaldson has furnished an admirable biographical sketch of Mr. Catlin and a full description of this famous gallery. There are nearly 150 illustrations, most of them being outlines of the Catlin paintings, together with the detailed descriptions as given by Mr. Catlin, and his accounts of his travels among the Indians.

There is also added a very satisfactory account of our Indian policy for the last hundred years, together with the location of tribes at periods, illustrated with maps and the present numbers and location of all tribes and reservations.

It is safe to say that the volume is the most valuable contribution to Indian history that has appeared for many years, and will be a standard work of reference. For this interesting volume the RECORD is under obligation to Congressman Edwin S. Osborne.

#### Curious, if Not Bogus.

While Morris Hughes, Geo. Cooper and Will Strantz were looking around on Campbell's Ledge, last Sunday, one of them discovered the letters "AN" on a projecting stone. After removing the moss and earth to a depth of some four inches they discovered the following inscription:

SULLIVAN  
Aug. 1, 1779.  
G. C. A. H.

Our local historians will be interested in this discovery, and some of them may be able to interpret the meaning of the letters.

—Pittston Gazette.

#### Translated from the German.

The following translation from the German poet, Gitterman, is made for the Saturday Social Column by "Otto Warburg." It is inscribed to the translator's friend and teacher, Prof. Julius Meyer, of this city. The words of the German are also given:

#### DIE WOHNUNG DES GLUECKS.

Das Glueck zu suchen, war  
Der weise Sadi fuenfzig Jahr  
Gewandert—in dem Glanz der Throne,  
Wie in der armen Huetten Dunst.  
Wo fand er wohl des Gluecks vollkommne  
Gunst?

Wo, unter welches Himmelszone?—  
Ach, nirgends, nirgends fand er sie!—  
Ihm selbst verbitterte des Forschens Mueh'  
Und Leiden mancher Art den Kelch des Lebens.

Einat irrt er ab in einen dunkeln Wald;  
Auf einmal seigte sich in Besumen, hoch er-  
brausend.

Im Graun der Vorwelt ihm ein Tempel, alt  
Und groes und hehr, wie ein Jahrtausend.  
Still steigt er zu den stillen Stufen auf  
Und schreitet ehrfurchtsvoll durch die erhabnen  
Hallen.

Zuletzt bemerkt er eine Thuer, worauf  
Die Zeilen ihm in's Auge fallen:  
Hier taent kein Weinen, nagt kein Schmers;  
Hier ruht das Glueck, hier ruht das Herz.

"O, seligste von meinen Lebensstanden,  
So hab' ich endlich dich gefunden!  
O Glueck, so nah' ich endlich dir!"—  
So ruft der Weise voll entsetztem,  
Und freudig bebend oeffnet er die Thuer.  
Was steht er?—Mit duestern Blicken  
Starrt er in einen weiten Schlund hinab  
Und sieht tief unten—was?—ein Grab.

#### WHERE HAPPINESS DWELLS.

True happiness to find, wise Sadi sought with  
tears

And wandered near and far for fifty years.  
No spot on earth escaped his eager quest,  
From glittering throne to hut of the distressed,  
Where found he, then, true Happiness to dwell?  
Beneath what zone of heaven—canst thou tell?  
Oh, nowhere, nowhere. All his search was vain,  
His soul tormented by the weary strain,  
He drank life's bitter chalice to the dregs.

One day he wandered through a dark'ning wood,  
Before his gaze a towering temple stood,  
Hoary with time, its age a thousand years,—  
Voiceless, but once the shrine of priests and  
seers.

Silent he entered through its rugged walls  
And trod with reverence through its vaulted  
halls.

At last his eye fell on a curious door  
On which were writ these startling words—  
no more:

"No grief is here: no anguish gnaws the breast,  
Hee happiness abides, the weary rest."

"At last my fondest hopes I realize,  
The hour has come which brings what most I  
prize.

Oh, Happiness, I claim thee my beloved."  
So spoke the sage with strong emotion moved,  
And joyful, trembling, opened he the door.  
What met his gaze? Transfixed upon the floor  
He stared into a pit of gathering gloom  
And saw—what was it?—underneath, a tomb!

**SHOOK OLD HICKORY'S HAND.**

**An Old Wilkes-Barre Man Who Never Was Sick a Day, and at Eighty-five Can Outrun and Outjump Any Man in Dakota.**

[St. Paul Globe.]

ELLENDALE, Dak., July 27.—Vernet Tracy was born in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, in the State of Pennsylvania, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1808, and is now more than eighty-five years of age. In April, 1828, he was married to Mary Ann Dilly, also of Wilkes-Barre, who is still alive and lives with her husband in Ellendale, Dak. They have had ten children, all of whom are still living. In the summer of the year 1828 Mr. Tracy packed his wife, two children and his household goods into a wagon and started with his team of two horses over the Allegheny mountains westward towards the setting sun, and finally settled in Peoria County, in the State of Illinois, where he remained until the year 1838, when he again moved westward into the State of Iowa. When gold was discovered in California, Mr. Tracy became afflicted with the gold fever, and on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1850, he, with his oldest son, then twenty-two years of age, crossed the Missouri River with a horse team and mining outfit on their way to the gold fields of the Pacific coast, and crossing the plains, arrived at the mines on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August of that year.

He stayed in California three years, engaged in mining and various pursuits, and then return to Iowa, where he had left his family, and carried with him a fair sized bag of "dust," which he had accumulated in the gold regions. His son who accompanied him to the Pacific coast is still a resident of California and is now sixty years of age. He has resided in Ellendale, Dickey County, Dak., five years, owns considerable real estate, collects his monthly rents, and attends to his business in all respects as well as any man in the prime of life. He is always upon the streets, and his conversations are lively and interesting. He says when he settled in Illinois deer were so plenty that they were always in sight, and that he has seen them in droves of fifty or more at a time. He has shaken the hand of "Old Hickory," was well acquainted with Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Buchanan, and saw the Baltimore riot. He is a remarkable man in many respects, and as he appears on the street no one would take him to be over fifty years of age; has never drank whisky or used tobacco, never was sick a day in his life, and reads

without specs. He has been quite a sport, and says he can now run faster and jump higher than any man in Dakota.

The Vernet Tracy mentioned in the article copied from the *St. Paul Globe* is well remembered by many of our older citizens. His mother, the widow Tracy, lived at the corner of Franklin and Union Streets in the house lately demolished to make room for the Syndicate Block. He was a wagon maker by trade and carried on business in company with a Mr. McShane in a shop at the rear of the Loomis building on North Main Street, and which was afterwards used by Benjamin Drake as a blacksmith and wheelwright shop. His whereabouts was not known here by his early companions, and as he had not been heard from for so long a time, they naturally supposed that he must have passed to the spirit world years ago. Some of these old boys with whom we have conversed since they read the article, were much pleased to hear from their sprightly octogenarian friend of former days.

**The Nanticoke Indians.**

In the *Historical Record*, vol. 2, page 112, appeared an article on the colony of Maryland, its distinguished settlers, the union of the Bladen and Deringer families, the Nanticoke Indians, etc. The contributor of that article kindly furnishes some additional matter with reference to the Nanticoke Indians:

According to tradition preserved by the chief of the Nanticoke, these Indians were an offshoot of the Lennie Lenape (meaning many men), a numerous tribe of the powerful tribe of the Delawares, whom the Nanticoke called their grand father. Nantego was the origin of the name Nanticoke. Then the great chiefs were Panquish and Amotoughquan. They were located in Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester Counties, Maryland. They left the Eastern shore in 1748, after the treaty made by Governor Thomas Bladen with the six nations. By request of Alachqueek and three others of the Nanticoke they were permitted to leave the Eastern shore. They gathered up the bones of their ancestors. Even while the bodies were in a putrid state these Indians took off the flesh and scraped the bones before they could carry them away. In May, 1748, ten canoes filled with Nanticoke were seen passing Shamokin on their way to Wyoming Valley. Few of these Indians went to Otingo, now Binghamton, N. Y., and there formed a league with the Shawnees and Mohockardens, under the name of Three Nations.

Sir Charles Calvert, Lord Baron, of Baltimore, was then then proprietor of all the

provinces of Maryland, appointed by King Charles, of whom he was a descendant, and brother-in-law to Sir Thomas Bladen, Governor, of the Provinces. Their wives were sisters, Mary and Barbara, daughters of Sir Theodore Jansen, Baronet, of Wimbleton, Surry. The present St. John's College at Annapolis was built by Governor Bladen for his town residence. Annapolis was made the seat of government in 1699. Governor Robert Eden was the last of the English Governors. His wife Caroline was the daughter of Lord Baltimore and niece of Governor Bladen. He was buried under the pulpit in an Episcopal Church, on the Severn River, two miles from Annapolis. Frederick Culvert, only son of Sir Charles Culvert, was the last of the Lord Barons of Baltimore. His wife was Diana, daughter of Sorape, Duke of Bridgewater. He died in 1758, at the age of 46 years, without lawful issue, and the title of Baron of Baltimore became extinct. Governors Bladen, Sharpe and Ogle were his executors.

Eleanor Culvert, of Mt. Airy, near Washington, granddaughter of Lord Benedict Culvert, married John Park Custis, stepson of General George Washington, who owned and lived at Arlington Heights, in the elegant mansion near Washington, which place was confiscated during the late war as the property General Robert E. Lee. The Culverts and Bladens were from Yorkshire, England, of distinguished English nobility. Their descendants are the F. F. V.'s of Virginia and Maryland.

#### Seeking a Bride in 1795.

G. McClure, of Bath, N. Y., afterwards General McClure, was head carpenter of Capt. Williamson, of that place, in 1795, and he married Nellie Bole, of Derry, down near Harrisburg. He started down the Susquehanna on horseback, and the Bath, N. Y., *Platdealer* prints the following letter, as an apology to the captain for his long absence:

#### DERRY TOWNSHIP, July 20, 1795.

SIR: Thinking you would be uneasy about my staying so long, I thus embrace this opportunity of writing you. I was very ill for a week after I started, but have now come to perfect health. The reason, Sir, I assign for staying so long (it was not such a hurrying time for business), so I expected it would be satisfactory to you. I am going to take your advice in getting a wife. The business is nigh been executed. I expect to start for Bath in about ten days.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect and esteem,

Your Humble Servant,  
G. MCCLURE.

To Chas. Williamson, Esq.

#### John B. Collings a Candidate.

Among the candidates on the Democratic ticket in Lackawanna County is our former townsman, John Beaumont Collings, Esq., who is the nominee for district attorney. The *Republican* accompanies an excellent portrait of Mr. Collings with the following sketch:

John B. Collings was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1848. He received his education in the public schools of that city, Wyoming Seminary and Anderson Dana's Classical Academy. He is the son of Samuel P. Collings, who was appointed consul general to Morocco by President Pierce, and who died at Tangiers during his incumbency of that office. The candidate for district attorney read law in the office of George R. Bedford, at Wilkes-Barre, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. In 1873 he was nominated by the Democrats of Luzerne for district attorney, but was defeated by Alexander Farnham, Esq. Mr. Collings came to Scranton in 1874, and has since practiced his profession in this city, winning some distinction by his conduct of several important cases. In the new county fight Mr. Collings took a leading part and wrote much for the local papers favoring a division and labored hard upon the stump to convince the voters to whom the matter was submitted, that a division would be beneficial to them. On his mother's side Mr. Collings is prominently connected. His uncle, Andrew Beaumont represented the old Twelfth district in Congress and was also a member of the State Legislature. Another uncle, Admiral John C. Beaumont, for whom Mr. Collings is named, was selected by the administration at that time to convey the congratulations of the Congress of the United States to Alexander, Czar of Russia, upon his escape from assassination at the hands of a Poleander in 1868. Mr. Collings was made private secretary to his uncle and accompanied him to Moscow on his mission. He received at the hands of the Emperor a bronze medal commemorative to the event. During his trip Mr. Collings visited nearly all the principal ports in Europe and wintered in the Mediterranean. After an absence of two years he returned to his home in Wilkes-Barre and commenced the study of law. While a student Mr. Collings acted as clerk in the prothonotary's office, and later held a position in the office of the clerk of the courts. Mr. Collings is unmarried.

### DEATH OF H. H. DERR.

**Suddenly Stricken with Apoplexy—He Passes Away Without Regaining Consciousness.**

The announcement that H. H. Derr died October 12, about 10 o'clock pm., will be received with surprise and sorrow by this entire community. No man has been more closely identified with this community for years than he. Every meritorious enterprise has looked to him for support and there has not been a local movement for benevolent or charitable purposes, that did not find in him a ready and willing helper. He was a self-made man and he was one of the men who people like to see succeed, because his disposition was such as to win the confidence and esteem of all.

Mr. Derr had spent the day arranging the contracts for extending the electric road, of which he was president and a principal stockholder. He was closely absorbed in this business and at noon telephoned to Director E. H. Chase to meet him at the city council room at 2:30 for the purpose of consulting with Mr. Osborn, who has contracts for laying wooden block paving in this city. The consultation was in regard to paving the portion of Canal Street through which the company's track runs, the company having to pay for 11 feet of the paving. Mr. Hollenback was present, as was W. V. Ingham. While the gentlemen were arranging matters with Mr. Osborn, Mr. Chase noticed that Mr. Derr's face was twitching, but thought for a moment that he was simply absorbed in thought. Looking up again he saw that Mr. Derr was stricken with illness and he was found to be speechless, nor did he ever speak again. He was at once removed to his home.

Henry H. Derr was born in Bucks County, Pa., July 5, 1839, being a son of John Derr, of Springfield, Bucks County, (whose ancestors had been among the earliest settlers of the county) and Hannah Fine, youngest child of John Fine, Esq., of Fineville, Hunterdon County, N. J. When about 15 years of age his parents removed from the banks of the Delaware River and settled on a farm near the town of Shamokin, Northumberland County. Four years later the family again removed to a farm in Upper Augusta Township in that county, where his father in addition to the farm was engaged also in the business of merchant milling.

The farm is still in the possession of the family.

Deceased had no educational advantages other than those of the common schools, but he was full of energy and ambition. He was a farmer's lad and taught country school for a time. In 1862 he came to Wilkes-Barre and joined his brother, the late Thompson Derr, who had been a few years in the fire insurance business. Since that time he has been a conspicuous feature in this community and amassed a fortune here. The insurance business begun by Thompson Derr has been one of the most extensive in the State, covering not a local field but every town and hamlet in Pennsylvania. It is carried on under the old title of Thompson Derr & Bro., the junior and only surviving partner being Andrew F. Derr.

Mr. Derr married Mary E. Fell, of this city, a sister of Mrs. B. G. Carpenter, and the union proved a most happy one. The surviving children are Grace, Chester B., Ralph, Harry and Olin. Of these, Grace is the only one of age and Olin is only nine. Mr. Derr's surviving brothers are John F. Derr, of Sunbury, and Andrew F. Derr, of Wilkes-Barre. His parents died about the time he came to Wilkes-Barre. Deceased was among other things a director in the Vulcan Iron Works, a trustee of Wyoming Seminary, the president and largest stockholder of the Suburban Electric Railway, a director and former treasurer of the Wilkes-Barre Hospital, a director in the Young Men's Christian Association, a trustee of the First M. E. Church and a teacher of the bible class. A year or so ago he engaged in a real estate transaction, the most extensive in the history of this city. He purchased 40 acres in the northern part of town, the old Conyngham farm, for \$40,000, and converted the unoccupied tract into what is now a populous section of the city. The transaction was a great financial success and resulted in an unprecedented improvement in the town.

It was not Mr. Derr's wealth which made him friends or made him a favorite. It was his strong and rugged character, his sunny disposition, his approachableness, his desire to mingle with people who move things, and his desire to put his community in the front rank of Pennsylvania cities. It is these qualities which his death a staggering blow to Wilkes-Barre and its people.

#### Mr. Derr's Funeral.

A concourse of people which overflowed the capacious residence of the late Henry H. Derr and reached out to the broad veranda, the sidewalk and even to the lawn opposite, assembled Oct. 15 to listen to the solemn service previous to his burial in the Hollen-

back Cemetery. It was a notable assemblage, made up as it was of representative men from every profession and every branch of business in Wilkes-Barre. The body lay in the parlor, the room being heavy with the odor of a profusion of beautiful floral emblems. Every foot of the roomy interior was occupied and hundreds could not gain admission at all. The officiating clergy were Rev. O. R. Gregory, Rev. J. E. Bone, Rev. Dr. Sprague and Rev. Dr. Tuttle. Other clergymen present were Rev. Dr. Hodge, Rev. Dr. Frear, Rev. H. L. Jones, Rev. L. O. Floyd, Rev. J. G. Eckman, Rev. Y. C. Smith, Rev. Mr. Chubb, and Rev. Van Schoick. The pall bearers were W. M. Shoemaker, Dr. L. H. Taylor, A. H. Dickson, C. B. Metzger, Thos. Eley and E. F. Roth. It was expected that Rev. Dr. Olin and Rev. J. O. Woodruff would assist in the services, but neither were able to reach here in time.

Exercises at Wyoming Seminary were suspended during the afternoon and many of the students and teachers attended the funeral.

#### A Luzerne County Man Dead.

Harvey Bradburn Lane died on Aug. 28 at Saratoga Springs, where he had gone early in July for the benefit of his health. Mr. Lane was born at Plymouth, Wyoming Valley, Pa., January 10, 1818, and was the son of the Rev. George Lane, one of the leaders of Methodism at that time in Southern and Central New York. He prepared for college at Wilbraham Academy, Mass., under Dr. Wilbur Fisk, and went with him to Wesleyan University as a member of the first freshman class in 1831. He was graduated in 1835, and the same year went with President Fisk to Europe, spending the winter of 1835 and 1836 in Paris. Returning from abroad he became a teacher at Wilbraham Academy. In 1838 he went South and for eighteen months served as a civil engineer in the survey of the first railroad through Georgia. The year following he was called to the chair of mathematics in Oxford College, Georgia; in Dixon's College, Carlisle, Pa., and in the Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. He accepted the call to his alma mater. In 1844 he took the chair of Greek, made vacant by the resignation of Prof. D. D. Whedon. In 1860 he resigned his chair and came to New York to become assistant editor of the *American Agriculturist*, which position he retained for several years. For the last twenty years, however, he was engaged in selecting rare and valuable books for public and private libraries, in which work he became an authority with the book col-

lectors of the United States. In early life Mr. Lane became a church member, holding his connection for many years with St Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, at Fourth Avenue and Twenty-second Street. In 1840 he married Miss Maria E. Potter, of Enfield, Conn., who survives him. Mr. Lane also leaves a son and daughter, Charles Henry Lane and Mrs. Mary Lane Lyon. The body will be taken to Middletown, Conn., for burial.—*New York Tribune*.

#### Rev. D. C. Olmstead Dead.

The large congregation of the M. E. Church in Nanticoke were cast into sorrow Oct. 12 by the death of their pastor, Rev. D. C. Olmstead. He was at prayer meeting on Thursday night of last week, but was taken with a bad cold which resulted in heart-failure, from which death followed yesterday. Deceased was 62 years of age. Mr. Olmstead entered the Wyoming Conference in 1847 and has been therefore a minister of the gospel 41 years.

His first year's work was at Geneva, N. Y. Mission. In 1848 he went to Le Raysville, where he remained but a few months, going from there to Brooklyn and thereafter serving appointments at Tunkhannock, Canaan, Honesdale, Oandor, N. Y., Danby N. Y., Caroline and Speedsville, N. Y., Windsor, N. Y., Binghamton, N. Y., Abington, N. Y., Union, N. Y., and in 1855, serving again at Windsor. From 1857 to '70, he was presiding elder on the Wyalusing district, and for three years thereafter he served in the same capacity on the Honesdale district. From Honesdale he went to Waverly, N. Y. In 1878, he was pastor of the Central M. E. Church, Wilkes-Barre. After serving at Milford and Onconta he went to Pittston, preaching at the latter place two years. In 1887 he was transferred to Nanticoke, where he has since been.

In 1872 he was elected a delegate to general conference, and again in 1888 he was elected a delegate to the great Methodist General Conference which held its sessions in New York.

Mr. Olmstead was in the spring of 1887 elected a trustee of Wesleyan University, and at the meetings of the trustees during commencement week of that year he was strongly opposed to the removal of Dr. Beach, president of the college.

Deceased leaves a wife who has for many years been prominent in church organizations, and a son, Rev. Edward B. Olmstead of Sayre, who is also a member of the Wyoming Conference.

In Memoriam—Mrs. W. C. Gildersleeve.

[The following sketch is published at this time as Rev. Dr. Parke was in Europe when Mrs. Gildersleeve's death occurred.—Ed.]

Mrs. W. C. Gildersleeve, whose death occurred at Cape May Point, N. J., on the 28d of August, 1888, was born in Philadelphia in August, 1802. She was the daughter of Jacob Mitchell, a magony merchant of Philadelphia. In 1827 she was married to Rev. Jacob Beecher and with him removed to Shepherdstown, Virginia, where he was pastor of the German Reformed Church. Four years after her marriage Mr. Beecher died, leaving her with two little boys to care for. She then returned to her father's house in Philadelphia where she remained with her children until her marriage to Mr. Gildersleeve, Oct. 8, 1856, when she came to Wilkes-Barre, where she resided until the death of her husband.

A few years after the death of her husband, which occurred Oct. 4, 1871, she returned to Philadelphia. For the past few years she has resided in Woodbury, N. J., with her sister, Mrs. Susan Roe.

Mrs. Gildersleeve was one of a company of active christian workers in the old Pine Street church of Philadelphia when the Rev. Ezra Stiles Ely, D. D., was its pastor, and through one of her associates in said church, Miss Mary Gardiner, she became acquainted in Wilkes-Barre. Miss Gardiner was the sister of Mrs. Laura Brower, and by invitation of Mrs. Brower Mrs. Gildersleeve (then Miss Mitchell) and her sister, Miss Susan Mitchell, visited Wilkes-Barre and spent some time here.

One of the first Sabbath schools in the county was taught by these young Philadelphia ladies at what is now known as Parsons, in connection with Miss Mary Bowman, a sister of Bishop Bowman. In this school Prof. John Hart, whose father worked for the father of Calvin Parsons, Esq., was a promising scholar, and largely through the influence of these ladies he secured a collegiate education and entered on the way to the position of usefulness and distinction that he attained.

Mrs. Gildersleeve, from her first visit to Wilkes-Barre in the family of Mrs. Brower, kept up her acquaintance here, and when she came here as the wife of Mr. Gildersleeve, she made herself felt in the First Presbyterian Church as an efficient helper in every good work. In the Home for Friendless Children also she took a deep interest so long as she resided in the city, and

she did not forget it after she removed to Philadelphia.

The Wilkes-Barre of 1888 is not the Wilkes-Barre she knew fifty years ago. Neither is it the Wilkes-Barre to which she came when she married Mr. Gildersleeve, thirty-two years ago. The men and women with whom she was associated in "the early days" she remembered with great interest. They were among her choicest friends, and while her associations were largely with the First Presbyterian Church, she delighted to make friends with all who loved the Lord Jesus Christ. She was one of the links that united us with the past. Her first visit to Wilkes-Barre was made when the Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve was a missionary in Wyoming Valley. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray, D. D., and Rev. John Dorrance, DD., she knew when they were in the seminary in Princeton, N. J. The pastors who succeeded Dr. Dorrance, viz.: Dr. A. A. Hodge, Rev. Samuel Dod and Rev. F. B. Hodge, DD., were her pastors. There are those still in Wilkes-Barre who remember her with affectionate regard and with a measure of admiration. She was a woman who would attract attention and commanded respect in any circle of cultivated christian people.

With the noble christian men and women of Wilkes-Barre who have finished their work and rest from their labors, Mrs. Gildersleeve rests—but her influence as an attractive, generous, cultured, earnest, elegant christian woman abides and will abide.

M. G. F.

#### From a Former Resident.

In a letter from Mrs. N. Shephard Lawrence, 168 Second Avenue, Asbury Park, N. J., ordering the RECORD, she says:

Dear old Wilkes-Barre. How well I remember the "borough" from 1829 to 1837. In those days we not only knew every man, woman and child, but the very cattle which belonged to them. Then the stranger came in and *woke up the inhabitants!* What a vast change has taken place in the staid old town and in its people. The strangers brought new ideas. Coal was more largely developed. Sarah and Gould Parriah went to school to Lydia Trott, the mother-in-law of the Hon. G. W. Woodward, in her kitchen at the northwest corner of the Square and Market Street. I was also one of the pupils. I have just met my old friend, Mrs. Daniel Brodhead, from Sugar Notch, and we have been talking Wilkes-Barre. She has a knowledge of some of my old associates there. To me 'tis a great treat. My brother-in-law, E. B. Worthington, used to edit the *Advocate* and my uncle Lynch was cashier of the Wyoming Bank for nearly 40 years.



# The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

## The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

## NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

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VOL. III.

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WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

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# The Historical Record

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NO. 1.

## SCHOOLS IN EARLY WYOMING.

Interesting Chapter from ex-State Superintendent Wickersham's Recent Volume on Education in Pennsylvania.

In that interesting volume, issued last summer, *the History of Education in Pennsylvania*, by Hon. J. P. Wickersham, we find the following account of the zeal for education displayed by the Connecticut settlers in the Wyoming region:

"This chapter cannot be closed without some notice of the introduction into a portion of the State of a system of schools that had an important bearing upon subsequent Educational history. We have reference to the system of free public schools brought by the Connecticut settlers into the valley of Wyoming. Pennsylvania as a province, of course had nothing to do in establishing them; in principle they were an advance upon the schools then existing in Connecticut, and in most essential respects, were similar in design and management to the public schools of the present day.

"The first settlements in Wyoming Valley were made under the auspices of 'The Susquehanna Company,' organized in 1753, by some six hundred citizens of Windham county, Connecticut, and approved the following year by an act of Colonial Assembly. The surveyors of the company were sent out in 1755, and at that time and subsequently a-venteen townships were laid out, each five miles square and containing fifty shares, each of three hundred acres. They were located in blocks on the bottom land along the rivers, and embraced territory now within the limits of Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Bradford and Susquehanna Counties. The names of these townships are Huntington, Salem, Plymouth, Kingston, Newport, Hanover, Wilkes Barre, Pittston, Providence, Exeter, Bedford, Northumberland, Putnam, Braintown, Springfield, Claverack and Ulster.

"The first attempt to settle on the lands laid out by the company were made in 1762, and continued in 1763, but owing to the hostility of the Indians, no permanent settlement was effected until 1769. Constantly harassed by the savages, compelled to carry on a continuous struggle, amounting at times to open warfare, with rival claimants to the land on which they had built houses and established homes, almost annihilated by the terrible massacre

of Wyoming during the Revolutionary war, these brave and hardy men of Connecticut still maintained their ground; and in 1783 the population of the seventeen 'Certified Townships,' is estimated to have reached six thousand. It has now swelled to two hundred thousand.

"The first action taken in regard to schools was as follows:

"At a meeting of the Susquehanna Company, held at Hartford, Connecticut, 28th December, 1768 it was voted to lay out five townships of land within the purchase of said company, on the Susquehanna, of five miles square each; that the first forty settlers of the first town settled, and fifty settlers of each of the other towns settled, shall divide the towns among themselves; reserving and appropriating three whole shares or rights in each township, for the public use of a gospel ministry and schools in each of said towns; and also reserving for the use of said company, all beds and mines of iron ore and coal that may be within said townships.'

"It was also voted to grant Dr. Eleazer Wheelock, a tract of land in the easterly part of the Susquehanna purchase, ten miles long and six miles wide, for the use of the Indian school under his care; provided, he shall set up and keep said school on the premises.

"The proposed Indian school was never established, although it is stated that Joseph Brant and other Indians attended Dr. Wheelock's school at Lebanon, Connecticut. Instead of coming to Pennsylvania, Dr. Wheelock went to New Hampshire and became the founder of Dartmouth College. The directions of the company in other respects were carried into effect in all the townships as soon after settlement as possible. The 'three shares' in each township amounted to 900 acres; in a general way the whole was set apart for school purposes, but in a number of instances land was voted for the support of ministers of the gospel. The funds arising from the sale of these lands were not husbanded as they might have been, but in some townships they still exist and are used for the benefit of the public schools. The schools as well as other local affairs were managed, as in New England, by a general town meeting. The mode of proceeding is thus described: 'A school meeting was called, by public notices posted in the district. The inhabitants of the dis-

trict met, and elected, in their own way, three of their number to act as school committee, which committee hired teachers and exercised a general supervision over the schools. The teacher was paid by the patrons of the school, in proportion to the number of days they had sent to school. A rate bill was made out by the teacher and handed to the committee, who collected the money.' The general township fund was used to build school houses and to pay teachers.

"A few scraps of history have been gathered up that will serve to show the interest taken in education by these pioneer settlers in a Pennsylvania wilderness.

"At a town meeting held at Wilkes-Barre, August 23, 1773, a vote was passed 'to raise three pence on the pound, on the district list, to keep a free school in the several school districts in the said Wilkes-Barre.' 'A subsequent meeting,' says Charles Miner, in his history of Wyoming, 'specially warned, adopted measures for keeping open free schools, one in the upper district, one in the lower, and one in the town plot.'

"A town meeting in Kingston, held Dec. 21, 1773, voted 'that Nathaniel Landon, Samuel Commins and John Perkins, are appointed committee men to divide ye town into three districts, for keeping of schools.'

"The other townships, without question, passed similar votes, thus recognizing at that early day the fundamental principles of all true systems of public instruction: the common education of all classes; schools supported by a general fund or a tax on property; local management and responsibility.

"A general county school organization seems to have been established, doubtless to give more efficiency to the local management. At a general meeting of the whole settlement, held on the sixth of December, 1774, it was voted: 'That Elisha Richards, Capt. Samuel Ransom, Perrin Ross, Nathaniel Landon, Elisha Swift, Nathan Denison, Stephen Harding, John Jenkins, Anderson Dana, Obadiah Gore, Jr., James Stark, Roswell Franklin, Capt. Lazarus Stewart, Capt. Parks and Uriah Chapman, be chosen the school committee for the ensuing year.' These were leading men from every part of the settlement, showing how important they considered the subject of education. Well may Miner say: 'It may justly be regarded equally honorable and extraordinary that a people just commencing a settlement in a wilderness, wrestling steadily with the yet rude and unbroken soil for bread, surrounded by so many extrinsic difficulties and causes of alarm and disquiet, should be found so zealously adopting and so steadily pursuing measures to provide free schools throughout the settlement.'

"This system substantially continued in operation in the Wyoming region up to the time of the adoption of the common school system in 1834, when, with little change and no disturbance, it was merged into it; and, as the nearest approach to our modern public schools of any class of schools then known in Pennsylvania it had considerable influence in shaping the school legislation which culminated in the Act of 1834. It was Timothy Piesering, of Luzerne, as will be more fully shown hereafter, who, in the Constitutional Convention of 1790, secured the adoption of the article on education upon which was subsequently based the whole body of laws relating to common schools in Pennsylvania, up to the year 1874; and by so doing saved the convention from the threatened danger of committing itself to a much narrower policy.'

#### He is Now Eighty-five.

In renewing his subscription to the *WEEKLY RECORD*, Mr. Dilton Yarrington writes thus from Carbondale:

From the days of those dear good men, Charles Miner and Steuben Butler, I have had the pleasure of reading the Wilkes-Barre papers. I commenced in 1818 to read the war news, and felt greatly interested to the end of the war in 1815, and from that day to the present, I have had the pleasure of reading at least two Wilkes-Barre papers every week. I do not expect to read anything much longer. I came to this beautiful world the 8th of October, 1808, and I remember well the total eclipse of the sun, June 7, 1808. I was then two years and eight months old. That was the first day that I knew that I was in this world, and from that day, during the first forty years of my life I remember almost everything that came under my observation, but the last forty years appear like looking down a long, shady, dark road.

#### A Veteran Republican

Dr. G. Underwood, of Pittston, is entertaining his father-in-law, Elisha Newman. Mr. Newman is 98 years old. He cast his first vote for Madison in 1812, and has been a staunch Whig and Republican ever since. He voted for William Henry Harrison and also for Gen. Harrison.

#### A Big Wild Cat.

Thomas T. Miller killed a large wild cat of the lynx variety at Bear Swamp last week. He fired at the animal twice, his second shot striking it in the right side. Mr. Miller brought the carcass to the county commissioners and obtained on it the usual bounty of \$2.



## MUD RUN.

A Correct List of the Killed and Wounded, as Furnished by the Lehigh Valley Co.

The following official list of those killed and injured in the Mud Run disaster of Oct. 10 has been furnished by the Lehigh Valley Co., and is believed to be complete. The names, ages and residences are given:

## DEAD.

Pleasant Valley—John Barrett, aged 17; Martin Barrett, 15; James Brehony, 14; Mrs. P. B. Brehony, 52; John M. Coleman, 40 and Michael Coleman, 16, father and son; Patrick Curran, 16; Patrick A. Doran, 10 and Lewis Doran, 14, brothers; William Early, 14; Kate Featherstone, 15; Matthew Flaherty, 17; James Jackson, 18; James Jackson, 16; William Kelly, 33; James Lynott, 14 and John Lynott, 16, brothers; Mrs. Patrick McAndrew, 45, John McAndrew, 13 and Thomas McAndrew, 16, mother and two sons; Bernard Meehan, 48 and Mary Meehan, 19, father and daughter; Bennie O'Brien, 18; Thomas Ruddy, 32; John Walsh, 28; Patrick Walsh, 20; Michael Whalen, 12.

Scranton—Thomas Breen, age unknown; Wm. Dubigg, 18; Andrew Gibson, John J. Gibson, 21; Margaret Hart, 20; James Keating, 16; Owen Kilkullen, Michael Maxwell, Katie McNichols, John Moffit, 26; Thomas Moran, 23; William Noon, 20; Patrick Smith, 18; Willie Smith, George H. Stevens, 20

Green Ridge—Michael Doran, age unknown; James Farry, 16; John Gallagher James Heart, 17; Martin Heart, 16; Edward O'Malley, 16.

Minooka—James Conaboy, aged 18; Wm. Ousick, 21; Jas Mullen, Jr., 22; Patrick Powell, Jr., 18; Richard Powell, 50; Mrs. Richard Powell, 47; Thos. Toole, 19; Festus Mulhearn, 26.

Moosic—Austin Gibbons, 12; Charles Goeltz, 17; Thomas Morris, 18.

Olyphant—Thos. Brogan and Peter Muligan.

Bellevue—John A. Hearn.

Providence—Peter Kline, 16.

Priceville—John Rogan, 22.

Total killed, 64.

## INJURED.

Minooka—Michael Carrol, aged 22; Jas. Jennings, 18; Michael Kane, 12; Anthony Lydon, 40; Anthony Lydon, Jr., 15; John McCue, 18; Thos. McCue, 20; Michael McCree, 15; Felix McLaughlin, 14; John McLaughlin, 19; Patrick McLaughlin, Michael Murray, 12; Patrick Murray, 37; Peter Thornton, 18; Michael Walsh.

Scranton—Thos. Connelly, aged 23; — Oloherly, 17; Peter Herrick, Frank Mangan,

14; Anthony O'Harra, 33; Annie Regan, 15; Mary Duffy, 40.

Pleasant Valley—John McKeon, aged 43; Matthew Olvey, 14; John Curran, 14; Michael McAndrew, 50; Michael Walsh.

Providence—John Brogan, age not known, Peter Oavanaugh, John Lynch, John Regan.

Hyde Park—Susan Curry, age not known, Mary Durkin, Katie Kennedy.

Bellevue—Thos. Moore, age not known, — Beilly, 16.

Old Forge—Thomas Clark, age not known; James Hannon.

Susan Shea, of Wilkes-Barre, age not known.

Total injured, 39.

## Curious Newspaper Subscription.

Our Carbondale friend, Mr. Dilton Yarrington, is a great admirer of the Wilkes-Barre papers, and he is one of the original subscribers of the WEEKLY RECORD. Recently he celebrated his 85th birthday and on that day he wrote to Editor Linskill offering to pay him \$5 for a life subscription to the *Telephone*, whether he should prove to live 15 days or 15 years. Mr. Linskill accepted and at the same time indulged in the hope that Mr. Yarrington would live out the 15 years. Mr. Yarrington then subscribed for Mr. Linskill's forthcoming volume for his foreign travels, at the same time remarking:

In my younger days I have read much of the history of Europe, but I must say, that I never had a proper conception of English home matters, and the English people at home, until I read your interesting letters. My ancestors on my father's side were from England, 160 years ago. On my mother's side from Ireland, 180 years ago.

## Has Some Old Wilkes-Barre Papers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Nov. 26, 1888.—EDITOR RECORD: I have two issues of the *Susquehanna Democrat* published in your city March 15, 1811, and Feb. 15, 1811, containing a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the county of Luzerne from the first day of January, 1810, to 1811, and many other items of news relating to that period.

Both papers are nearly as large as your present RECORD, perfectly preserved and legible. One of them has the subscriber's name written on margin, "A. W. Newbery."

I have had these papers many years and am now desirous of disposing of them, thinking they might be of interest to somebody or a valuable relic to one of the Newbery descendants.

I write to ask an offer for one or both of these papers.

584 Bush Street.

F. B. FREEMAN.

### A GRAND OLD FLAG.

The Clay Club Flag Greeted the Election of Harrison and Morton—A Banner with a History—The Work of Hands, Before the Days of Sewing Machines.

Friday, Nov. 9th, the famous Clay Club flag was swung to the breeze over the west side of Public Square, from a line stretched from the tower of the Welles building to the court house tower. The operation of suspending the old flag was one of considerable difficulty. The bunting of which it is made has become tender through age, and requires careful handling, and the flag is of such great size that it is quite cumbersome. It is 20x26 feet, the stripes being 18 inches in width. It bears but 26 stars. The original length of the flag was 40 feet, but four feet were cut off after being frayed and torn in the services of several campaigns. The flag was made by the Whig ladies of Wilkes-Barre 44 years ago, for the Clay Club. It was presented to the club in formal fashion, the presentation speech being made by E. G. Mallery and the speech of acceptance by Hon. Chester Butler. The flag was very thoroughly constructed by the old time ladies, being sewn throughout with white silk thread. After being presented to the club it went into the custody of the late William H. Butler, the secretary of the Clay Club. His widow has guarded it jealously, loaning it only on rare occasions. On its being restored to her she carefully repaired all damages, and each time found it necessary to construct a new bag in which to keep it, the old one being lost by borrowers. Recently she allowed the flag to go into the custody of some of the old Henry Clay men.

The old banner presents a grand appearance, swung from the slender line far above all obstructions. It is prized too highly to be subjected to rough treatment, and will not be allowed to remain out over night or in a strong breeze.

Further interesting facts are promised concerning the relic, and those who made and cheered it in the olden time.

#### An Early Susquehanna Manuscript.

Some early records of the Susquehanna Company were recently found by Dr. W. H. Egle, State librarian, among the papers of the late James Trimble, who was deputy secretary of the Commonwealth for the 57 years prior to 1836. The volume is a transcript of the original book transmitted by Mr. Franklin. The original is in two volumes, indexed in detail. Mr. Trimble was extensively connected with land speculations with Philadelphians, the territory reaching to the New York line. The book in Dr. Egle's possession contains the min-

utes of the Susquehanna Company from July 18, 1753, to Dec. 29, 1768, and then after a hiatus, from Nov. 13, 1782, to the time they were brought into use,—at the Decree of Trenton.

#### In Friendship's Bonds.

[Written for the RECORD.]

There is no hour more sacred or more pure  
Than that which music hallows, and this eve  
A holier presence fills the room, while I,  
Entranced, am listening to a strain so sweet,  
So piercing in its tones of happiness,  
It thrills me to the soul.

Almost the day  
Has let its strands run into evening, yet  
A dim and mystic light still lingers here,  
While thro' the western windows, I can see  
The bar of gold that shuts the sunset gates,  
And night has clasped it with a star.

The hills  
Are tinged with dusky purple, outlined well  
Against the sky, and all the outer world  
Seems blending in some strange mysterious way  
Its beauty with the music's tenderness;  
And still, I watch the sweet musician 'mid  
The gathering shadows. Just one shaft of light  
A halo paints about her girlish head,—  
A golden bar.

I see the slender form  
Of one who scarce has tasted womanhood  
And yet, whose thoughtful eyes hold depths  
where truth  
shines fearlessly—for music such as this,  
Which fills my spirit with a sweet satiety,  
Could hardly flow beneath the touch of one  
Less pure. Strange toat a soulless instrument  
Should answer all her varying moods as heart  
Responds to heart—should feel the soul in her!  
The music changes and my tho'ts change too,  
Submissive to the power of melody.  
Ah, sweet musician, with the tender chords  
There is an under-current, as of tears  
That lie near happiness; a woman's cry  
Against some stern decree of fate!

What want  
Has filled your soul with longing or what joy  
Is missed among your blessings? Yet, again,  
A fatter tone is creeping in unconsciously  
To swell the sadness into triumph. Peace  
Is found at last, and in this hallowed time  
I know a battle has been fought and won.  
Our hardest struggles are the silent ones  
We strive to hide from all but God.

The night  
Has fallen over as the last proud chords  
Reverberate, and surely God hath set  
His seal upon this holy hour and bound  
Our two hearts closer with his harmony.

—Ione Kent,  
308 Second Avenue, New York City.

#### Coal as a Fertilizer.

In an almanac of 1802 is the following reference to coal as a manure: A gentleman in Bohemia has discovered that mineral coal, ground or broken small, is excellent manure, equal if not superior to plaster of Paris, in promoting the vegetation of grasses, and

especially of clover. This discovery is of the greatest importance to the inland parts of this country, where coal is abundant.

#### METHODISM IN KINGSTON.

Observances Commemorative of the Work Begun a Century Ago in Wyoming Valley by Anning Owen.

A century has passed since Methodism was first established in Wyoming Valley. A centennial service was held at the Kingston church Sunday, Oct. 21, and Rev. John G. Eokman delivered a historical sermon. He selected his text from Joel 1: 2, 3: "Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?" Mr. Eokman spoke briefly of the origin of Methodism and of its planting in Kingston, also giving a brief history of Wyoming Valley and of the massacre in 1778, at which time a young man by the name of Anning Owen escaped from the battle, was converted and became a zealous christian. Afterwards he united with the Methodist Church and commenced to hold meetings in his own house and formed a class on Ross Hill, now known as Edwardsville. This was in 1788 and the class was composed of nine members. Though he was but a poor blacksmith he preached with power and was the only Methodist preacher in this region.

The class continued to hold meetings in private houses until 1840, when the First M. E. Church was erected in Kingston, on the site of the present edifice, at a cost of \$2300, a large sum in those days, as the people were very poor.

Some eminent ministers preached in the valley in the early times, among them Bishop Asbury, who was entertained by Captain Parrish, at his home on Ross Hill, in 1793. Other noted preachers were Rev. Valentine Cook, Wm. Colbert, Thomas Weir, Gideon Draper, followed in later times by Revs. George Lane, Marmaduke Pearce, (father of Stewart Pearce), George Peck, Dr. Reuben Nelson and others.

The trustees of the first church, in 1840, were Henry W. Boughton, Thomas Pringle, Bester Payne, (father of Hubbard B. Payne), William Hancock and Madison F. Myers. The membership was then only 19, and covered a large circuit, some of the members coming from Wilkes Barre.

The old church was destroyed by fire in 1873, and the following year the present church and parsonage were built. It has a present membership of 360.

#### What Became of the Log Cabin?

There has been considerable speculation indulged in during the late Presidential contest concerning the ultimate fate of the famous log cabin erected here in the moon skin campaign of 1840. It was a substantial structure of forty or fifty feet in length, and was built of large pine, hemlock and other logs brought from all parts of the county, most of them of the finest quality of lumber and valuable on that account. After much search and diligent inquiry among the original Harrison men, we are informed by Adam Beebe that when there was no further use for the cabin as political headquarters, it was sold at public auction and purchased by him for \$40. After being torn down, the trees were cut up into saw log lengths, some of the logs being nearly two feet in diameter and free from knots or shakes. These logs were hauled to the saw mill of Abram Thomas, situate on the tow path side of the Canal, between Franklin and River Streets, on what is now the rear end of W. B. Mitchell's garden, off Franklin Street. Here they were sawed up into building material which was used in the construction of his brick residence, now the hotel known as the La Pierre House, a popular resort on North Main Street. Neither the guests at the hotel during the past few months, nor the landlord, probably, were aware that the beams and other timbers composing the structure had once echoed to the eloquence of campaign orators in that historical contest; but the spirit of Harrisonism seems to hang round them still, as at the grand jubilation of Tuesday night, the La Pierre House was among the handsomest and most gaily decked out with patriotic emblems of any business place on the street.

W. J.

#### Names of Union Prisoners Wanted.

The Pension Office has for several years been endeavoring to get a full and complete list of the Union ex-prisoners of war, and have secured the names of all those belonging to prisoner of war associations. As there are many whose names are not thus obtainable, the Pension Bureau has called upon the G. A. R. posts to assist in gathering the names of these. For that purpose circulars have been sent out, asking each post to procure and send in all names they can obtain. In another column is an advertisement calling on all ex-prisoners in this vicinity to send their addresses to Robert V. Livers, adjutant of Ely Post, who upon their receipt will forward them to the Pension Office. The office will then address the ex-prisoners by mail for full particulars.

**Voted for President Nineteen Times.**

Dr. Howell was down in Northampton County last week, attending the 96th birthday of his grandfather. The old gentleman is hale and hearty, and his mind is as clear as ever. He is a great reader and keeps abreast of all the events of the day. In this community we have been parading our veterans who voted for Harrison in 1840. This old gentleman voted for Harrison in that year and in six presidential elections previous, his first vote having been cast for John Quincy Adams in 1816. He has always been a Whig and Republican.

**Voted Three Times for the Harrisons**

EDITOR OF THE RECORD: I notice in your communications and interviews with the few of us "old boys" who have left, and who have passed the "three score years and ten," not one recalls the fact that he voted *twice* for "Grandpa" Harrison. That was a long time ago—fifty-two years.

"Little Van" (Buren) was the Democrat nominee and "Bill" Harrison and "Dan" Webber, along with two or three other aspirants, stood for the good old Whig party "Little Van" was elected. No candidate having received a majority of all the votes for vice president, the Senate chose a man by the name of Johnson. That was the first time I voted for Harrison.

The convention that nominated Harrison the second time was in '89 and met at Harriburg. The country was somewhat agitated over the doings of the Free Masons, and for the purpose of uniting the anti-Masonic and other opposition elements the convention very reluctantly abandoned "Harry of the West" (Olay) and nominated Harrison and Tyler.

If I recollect rightly, Harrison died exactly one month after he was sworn into office  
W. W. LOOMIS.

Nov. 12, 1888.

**"A Man by the Name of Johnson."**

EDITOR RECORD: I notice in Mr. Loomis' communication of yesterday, his mention of Col. Richard M. Johnson as "a man by the name of Johnson." On the same principle, I presume, if he had had occasion to make mention of Mr. VanBuren's predecessor he would have spoken of him as "a man by the name of Jackson."

Col. Johnson was a man who stood high in the estimation of his fellow citizens, not only as a soldier, but as a statesman as well. At the battle of the Thames it was a bullet from the unerring aim of the intrepid young Kentuckian that turned the tide of battle in favor of the Americans, as it laid low the mighty warrior, Chief Tecumseh, leader of Great Britain's Indian allies. Col. Johnson was withal a very modest

man. The killing of Tecumseh had always been recognized as the act of the gallant colonel, but upon being interviewed on one occasion, when he was thought to be the most prominent candidate for the presidency in 1840, he was asked to give his recollection of the event, when he replied that he did not know whether he had killed the great Indian warrior with his own hand or not. All he knew about it was, that during the contest an Indian of splendid personal appearance and adornment stepped out from behind a tree, and was in the act of bringing the deadly aim of his rifle to bear on him, when he hurriedly fired his horseman's pistol at the painted savage and he fell dead. He had been told that that was Tecumseh, but he did not know of his own knowledge whether it was the great chief or not.

I think it was in the year 1843 when Colonel Johnson was making his triumphal tour through Pennsylvania. I was then a young man stopping in Philadelphia when I fell in company with Commodore Jesse D. Elliot as he was paying a visit to a relative of mine. In a friendly chat with the Commodore, he related a circumstance regarding Col. Johnson's connection with the Thames battle which was highly characteristic of the gallant soldier. Commodore Elliot was a captain in Perry's fleet on Lake Erie in that affair of "September the 10th, in the morning," and was well acquainted with Col. Johnson. As the Commodore told the story, after the battle on Thames River, and as the wounded were being brought in, he met a squad of soldiers bearing a wounded officer in a blanket, whom he recognized to be Col. Johnson. He had the litter halted and proceeded to inquire as to the nature of his wounds. The reply was "pretty badly cut up, captain, but I don't think they have reached the vitals." He was badly cut up, having received several gunshot wounds, but he recovered and was afterwards called upon by his fellow citizens to preside over the deliberations of the United States Senate for four years with dignity, and was warmly endorsed as a candidate for the first office in the gift of the people. This was "a man by the name of Johnson."

**DEMOCRAT FROM AWAY BACK.****A Veteran Conductor.**

Miller Deitrick has been conductor on the line of street cars running between Wilkes-Barre and Kingston nearly 20 years. The Kingston Times says that when the first cars began running Mr. Deitrick made eighteen round trips per day; he now makes twenty, the other six trips being conducted by newer men. The average number of trips is 19, of 3 miles each, or 57 miles a day, 399 a week

and 20,748 miles a year. During the twenty-one years of service that would be 485,708 miles which he has traveled on the street cars. If this be true he has crossed and recrossed the Kingston flats no less than 290,472 times, so now he ought to be pretty well acquainted with the road.

#### BOARD OF TRADE.

The Board of Trade want a garbage crematory for our rapidly growing city, and they want it in real earnest. In fact the city fathers will be formally asked to invest a few thousand dollars for one. A meeting was held Friday night, attended by some 50 or 60 members, and Mr. A. E. Van Gieson, of Montclair, N. J., was present to describe an apparatus which has been found to work satisfactorily at Coney Island and elsewhere. Mr. Van Gieson gave a pleasant talk descriptive of the furnace, which costs about three thousand dollars (exclusive of foundation) and which in an hour or two burns up tons of animal and vegetable refuse, leaving only a few pecks of white odorless ashes.

The crematory is a solid brick structure, four feet wide inside in the clear and twelve feet long. About two feet from the bottom is a solid iron plate and above it is a heavy grating. In the center of the roof is a circular manhole, closed by a trap. There are two fires, one in front and another in the rear. The rear fire is started first. The refuse is dumped upon the grating through the manhole, thus being kept away from the fire so as not to extinguish it. The heat dries it and soon it is in flames caused by the front fire. The draft carries the smoke to the rear fire, which consumes the noxious gases and destroys all germs.

Charles J. Long read tributes to the memory of the J. H. Swoyer and the late H. H. Derr. The committee comprised, besides Mr. Long, Messrs. O. D. Foster, J. J. Robbins, Cyrus Straw and J. T. Morgan. They said:

John Henry Swoyer was born in Roderickville, Berks County, Pa., on Dec. 25, 1832, and died in this city Sept. 10, 1888. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1858, and from that time until the day of his death was conspicuously identified with the coal and general business interests of the valley. For some years he was the leading individual operator. Under his management many millions of tons of anthracite have been taken from the rich deposits hereabouts and shipped to profitable markets covering every quarter of the country. He was known in coal circles everywhere as an expert in the business and his opinions as to the relative values of coals from different veins and localities, and regarding the ever changing prospects of the coal trade, were eagerly

sought after. He had business reverses, but fought them to recovery with a never failing enterprise and courage. He was a liberal giver wherever his unusually impressionable sympathies were touched, and in the family relation was a devoted husband and father. He was repeatedly besought to accept political places by his fellow partisans, but, though an ardent party man, he invariably refused the proffered honors. He was, in short, in all respects a good and worthy citizen. His fellow members of the Board of Trade esteem his taking off a serious loss, both to the board and to the community, and this minute is ordered in testimony of that fact, and of their sincere sympathy with his surviving family and friends.

Henry Haupt Derr was born in Nockamixon Township, Bucks County, July 5, 1839, and died in Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 12, 1888. The most valuable items in his inheritance were such an education as the common schools of the time and vicinity afforded, and a daring, pushing ambition to be something more in the world than a mere "brewer of wood and drawer of water."

He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1862 and entered into the insurance business with his elder brother, the late Thompson Derr. The business flourished under their diligent and energetic guidance and became one of the most important in its line in the country. With Thompson's death, Henry Haupt assumed the head of it, and with his taking off, that responsibility passes to a still younger brother, Andrew F. Deceased is universally regarded as having been one of Wilkes-Barre's most useful citizens. His course as a member of the City Council and his official connection with the execution of the game laws of the State, his extensive real estate operation in North Wilkes-Barre, his assumption of the major share of the financial burden and practical management of the move that has resulted in the establishment of our already prospering electric street railway and his active association with our other leading industries—all these attest a foresight, energy and persistence that, being united in one man, make him conspicuous as a guide and counselor among his fellows.

He gloried in Church and Sunday school work, and among the keenest of the sorrows occasioned by his sudden summons to "that other country" are those of the class of the Sunday school of the first M. E. Church whose religious training he patiently and intelligently directed for many years. He had a helping hand for every movement looking to the benefit of his fellow citizens and the improvement of his adopted city, and was one of the earliest members and at the time of his death a trust-

tee of the Board of Trade. The board in reverent memory of his virtues and capacities as a man and citizen, thus all too imperfectly sketched, offers to his widow and orphaned children assurance of the heartfelt condolence of its members.

#### Past, Present and Future.

**EDITOR RECORD:** Let not the young boast. The present generation may be wise—is wise in its own conceit—but let him who writes about clams ask himself what he has done to set the wheel in motion. What agency has he to boast of in modern progress?

What does he really know of the past and of those who, far up among the mountains, labored to develop our immense resources, and in the mighty struggle were overwhelmed?

Were they transformed into clams because fortune deceived them and left them poor in old age?

George M. Hollenback subscribed one hundred thousand dollars towards a canal in New York State to secure an appropriation from the State of Pennsylvania to finish the North Branch Canal. Was he a clam? It was then equal to a million in these days of abundant currency, and he was not to blame for its failure. But the canal brings up another name:

#### OLIVER B. HILLARD.

The modern "Hazleton Traveler" in passing down Main Street will wonder what the two square doors or windows mean in the brick building at corner of Union Street. He will ask, too, what has been filled up with culm on which the Lehigh Valley Company is laying railway tracks on each side of a great sewer or drain. Tell him it was "the North Branch Canal," and he will again ask, "What is it?" Why, the whole town plot of Wilkes-Barre Borough was littered with debris of ruined fortunes before the young essayist on clams was born. Take Hillard's block with its generous proportions, its then—yes, now—magnificent front of conglomerate columns, type of the vast foundations of our anthracite wealth. The clam who put that improvement on the site of a row of old wooden buildings at cost of thousands was from the salt water, and he marked a giant stride in our coal development.

The doors were for use in shipping on the North Branch Canal. But for the tardiness of the Commonwealth in completing the canal, his enterprise might have borne rich fruit, North and South. In the South he had prospered, as he deserved to do anywhere,

but he lost in placing confidence in a Northern free trade Democracy.

Peace to his ashes. To my apprehension, O B. Hillard had all the elements of a noble man, and his life was sacrificed in his efforts to advance the prosperity of Wilkes-Barre. The failure of the North Branch was not the fault of Wilkes-Barre. It served for years as a border or bar to progress Northward, and when the bridges were levelled the city bounded—well, it might be likened to the flood let loose by the removal of a dyke or dam. Now the electric car breaks the city bounds, far beyond the old borough lines, and goes to Plains, through boroughs larger than Wilkes-Barre when O B. Hillard built his block of stores. Oh, no! not clams. The fly on the wagon wheel furnishes wisdom like that of the fables of *Æsop*—"I raise all the dust myself."

#### They Receive Their Dues.

The survivors of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, have for some time past contemplated erecting a monument on the battle field at Gettysburg, to mark the place and time of their participation in that struggle. The shaft was to be in the shape of a statue of Sergt. Crippen, who was killed while on duty. The inscription to be graven upon the monument was contested by the Board of Commissioners being particular that nothing but historic truths of established authenticity should greet the eye of the visitor upon that field. Capt. DeLacy, of Scranton, has gathered the necessary proofs that the regiment is entitled to the honors they desire to have recorded upon the monument, and presented the claim to the commissioners. He on Tuesday received a letter from Samuel Harter, of the board, stating that his claims had been established, expressing deep regret that such proof had not been furnished before. The inscription contested for and allowed, with additions by the board, is: "July 2 and 3 the regiment was in line on left centre," with "and on the 3d assisted in repulsing the final charge of the enemy."

#### A Veteran Policemen and Artilleryman.

Wm. Riddall, who is now engaged in building Capt. Walp's new steamer, was the first uniformed policeman appointed in Wilkes-Barre. This was during W. W. Loomis' term as mayor. Mr. Riddall was also first lieutenant of the old Wyoming Artillery Company, having received this appointment from Gov. Pollock in 1853. He still has a portrait of himself in the uniform of the artillery company, taken about that time.

**Armstrong's Invasion in 1784.**

It may be well to state the reason of the following "Pass" being given, or required. The soldiers sent in advance by Col. Armstrong to Wyoming in 1784 had been met by a party of thirty Yankees at Locust Hill near the Lehigh, and defeated. They had one killed and several wounded. They retreated, but came on with the main body of Armstrong's soldiers to Wyoming. The Yankees at Wyoming, including these Locust Hill men, surrendered on promises of Col. Armstrong, which he shamefully violated, and arrested the whole of the now disarmed Yankees about Aug. 10, 1784. The thirty that had been at Locust Hill, except one and the captain, were sent in irons to E-ston jail. The most of them broke out of jail and escaped, but all that were recaptured were discharged in October because the grand jury would not find a bill of indictment against them, believing, as they probably did, that the Yankees were justified in fighting in their own self defense against armed men invading their part of the country where could have no business there that needed their presence unless they were to be used against these same Yankees. Well, it appears they were discharged on Oct. 30, 1784, by the date of this pass to one of them to come home. This may not be the date of their discharge, as they were required to pay jail expenses amounting to \$25 cash, according to the statement of Christopher Huribut, a brother of this John, and may have been unable to raise that much money for some time after their discharge. But these men were too poor to seek redress for this violation of law in compelling them to pay costs and expenses at the jail, when they had not been convicted nor even indicted for any crime or misdemeanor. And now, even after getting out of jail, they had even to procure a "pass" to come back home, and the following is a copy of one made June, 19, 1888, from the original in the possession of Lyman F. Huribut, of Palmyra, N. Y., a grandson of John Huribut.

"PASS."

"Northampton County ss.

"Upon application Robert Levers, Esquire, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said county by John Huribut who hath this day entered into recognizance with one surety for his peaceable behavior towards all the subjects of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania for one year from the date hereof for a pass that he may have liberty to go to Wyoming on his Lawful Business and occasions. These are to permit the said John Huribut to pass from hence to Wyoming and so recommend to all whom it may

concern not to molest the said John Huribut on his passing and repassing as lawful business may occasion, he behaving himself as becometh a good citizen of Pennsylvania. Given under my hand and seal the thirtieth day of October, 1784."

[Signed] "ROBERT LEVERAS."

**"Macbeth" in Early Wilkes-Barre.**

Last summer, at Ocean Grove, I met with the Hon. Lewis Jones, a well preserved octogenarian, at one time an occupant of the judicial bench. He was an Exeter man by birth, and my fellow law student in the office of Chester Butler. Admitted to the bar, he practiced his profession many years; retired on a fortune secured by foresight and ability, and is now living in quiet ease in the metropolis of New York.

Our themes of conversation at the ocean retreat, brought up again what I had well nigh forgotten, a great event of our school days. Doctor Orton, principal of the Wilkes-Barre Academy, at the close of a winter's term, treated the community to a dramatic spectacle. He selected for the occasion the immortal Shakspeare's tragedy of "Macbeth." In this Mr. Jones sustained a principal character. The *Thane of Glamis and Cawdor* was assigned to Mr. H. B. Wright; his aspiring wife, high on the list of female regicides, found an able representative in Miss Ellen Oist Ovid F. Johnson, in after years, exalted to the admiration of his fellow countrymen, had likewise a part in the noted play.

The old court house was, for the time being, turned into a Theopian temple, where the scene of horror was to be displayed before the elite of the valley.

Well, the witches and daggers were on hand, making things warm for the ill fated King of Scotland. The poor old man had evidently wandered into the wrong box. He came out of it in far worse plight than he went in.

As I call to remembrance the representation of the weird and wondrous play, the different characters were very creditably sustained. All had the approval of the large auditory, made up, in part, of men high on the list of professional distinction.

There was, besides, an afterpiece, in which Lewis Miner, with a rich comic vein, received marked applause. And Butler Mallery, our best hand at oratorical declamation, added to the sum of the night's entertainment.

Of these performers, treading a mimic stage full sixty years ago, who, but Judge Jones, yet tread the stage of human life?

O. E. WRIGHT.

Doylestown, Nov. 28, 1888.

#### A VETERAN LAWYER DEAD.

Admitted to the Luzerne Bar in 1846—A Short Sketch of His Life, Together with Family Connections.

George Grant Waller, at one time a prominent lawyer of Luzerne County, died at Brooklyn, N. Y., on Tuesday, Dec. 4, of congestion of the lungs. His funeral will take place this afternoon from his home in Honesdale. The following is an extract from "Kulp's Families of the Wyoming Valley":

"George Grant Waller, who was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County, April 7, 1846, is a native of Wilkes-Barre, where he was born May 8, 1831. He is the son of Capt. Phineas Waller, a native of Plains Township, where he was born in 1774.

Capt. Nathan Waller, the great-great-grandfather of Mr. Waller, was a native of Connecticut, and emigrated to Wyoming Valley at an early day. His wife was Elizabeth Meeks, a daughter of Thomas Meeks, a native of Fairfield, Conn., who came to Wyoming with the first two hundred settlers in 1769. His brothers—Jonathan, Philip and Bartholomew Weeks—were slain in the battle and massacre of Wyoming. Capt. Nathan Waller died July 11, 1831, aged 79 years.

The mother of George G. Waller was Elizabeth Jewett, daughter of Jacob Hibbard Jewett, and was born Oct. 9, 1780. Dr. Jewett served as a surgeon in the Revolutionary Army during most of the war, and died in 1814. He, together with his family, were residents in Wilkes Barre in 1815.

George Grant Waller was educated in the schools of this city, at Lancaster, Pa., and at Williams College, where he graduated in 1844. He read law with Judge Collins, in this city. He has practiced in this city and at Bloomsburg, but principally at Honesdale, Pa.

He married, Oct. 11, 1854, Lizzie J. Bentley, a daughter of Benjamin S. Bentley and Hannah Bentley, his wife. Mrs. Waller was a native of Montrose, Pa. Mr. Bentley was president judge of Lackawanna County at the time of its organization, August 23, 1878, but the Supreme Court held that there was no vacancy in the office at the time of his appointment, and that, under the provisions of the new county act, Lackawanna was not a separate judicial district, and, therefore, the only court authorized by law was that to be established by the judges of Luzerne County, who organized the courts of Lackawanna County, October 24, 1878. He was also appointed by Gov. Hartranft president judge of the 29th Judicial District when Lycoming County was made a separate district.

One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Waller—Bessie B.

As a lawyer Mr. Waller was looked upon as among the front rank. His manner of unraveling the legal technicalities of a case was so exhaustive and indefatigable that success—if too great a preponderance of the law was not on the opposite side of the case—was inevitable. During the latter years of his life, although having reached a good, old age, he still maintained his mental and physical vigor.

#### Death at Hazleton.

Thursday, Nov. 22, James James, father of William P. James, recently elected clerk of the courts of Luzerne County, died at his home in Hazleton. Mr. James had passed the seventy-fifth mile stone in his earthly career, when his journeying came to an end. He was born in Wales in 1818, and emigrated to this country with his wife in 1840, settling in Hazleton, where he and his family have resided ever since, a period of forty-eight years. He at once assumed a standing of great prominence in the borough, and not only there but his influence was felt in the whole of the lower end of the county.

For sixteen years, until the advent of the present Democratic administration, he served the people of Hazleton as their postmaster. He took a prominent interest in all things that promised to be material in the advancement of the borough, and all plans calculated for the good of the community found in him a firm supporter. And not only in a secular sense was his usefulness most apparent, but in the church of his choice he labored earnestly and persistently for the spiritual and moral welfare of the people as well. At the time of his death he was a deacon of the Presbyterian Church.

Those who were intimately acquainted with him say that his life was consistent with the principles he advocated, and was devoted to the noble things of life. He leaves to survive him, William P. James, already mentioned, Sallie and Sophie James and Mrs. Richard Williams, of Hazleton, and Richard James, of Hoboken, N. Y.

#### An Aged Scissors Grinder Dead.

Johnson H. Miller died at his son's home, 108 South Canal Street, Nov. 15, after an illness of over a year. He was born in Holland 84 years ago and has lived in Wilkes-Barre for 23 years. He was familiar on the streets up to a year or two ago as a scissors grinder. He leaves a wife and six adult children—Henry, Lewis, William H., Edward, all of this city, Joseph, of Mill Creek, and Mrs. Mary Williams, of Newtown. Funeral on Saturday at 2 pm. Services from the residence of William H. Miller, 108 Canal Street.



**BURIED AT HOME.**

**J. D. L. Harvey, Who Died in Chicago, Brought to Wilkes-Barre and Placed Among His Kindred.**

Four o'clock Sunday, October 21, was the hour appointed for the holding of the funeral of the late J. D. L. Harvey, whose body was brought from Chicago, on Saturday, for interment at the place of his birth. At that hour a large assemblage was there to pay a final tribute of respect to one whom they had known in former years. Among those present were: D. A. Fell, W. S. Wells, I. M. Leach, Wm. Reith, G. W. Kirkendall, Judge Loop, B. G. Carpenter, S. S. Weller, G. S. Bennett, Chas. Hollenback, T. Burnett, Abram Burgunder, G. W. Generals, W. D. Loomis, M. A. Bennett, Perry Phillips, W. J. Smith, M. B. Houpt, F. V. Rockefeller, M. W. Morris, J. E. Patterson and J. P. Brownscombe.

The exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Tuttle and Rev. W. W. Loomis, the latter making the address. He alluded to the contrast between this service and that of the morning. At the one there were hearts aglow with Christian love; at this, the heart was still and pulseless; in the morning there were tears of joy at a new found nearness to Christ; here, the eyes were sealed and tearless; then there were hands stretched out in Christian greeting; here, they were folded across the breast. The speaker said he had known Mr. Harvey for perhaps 30 years, at which time he joined the First M. E. Church under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Snyder. He had gone to Chicago some 18 years ago. Deceased was an odd man but no warmer heart ever beat in human breast than in his. No hungry person ever went empty handed from his stall. Though peculiar, no one ever doubted his sincerity. He was wont to say odd things, but he should be judged by what he was, and not by what he said. He was the victim of cruel stories, circulated to annoy him. He was a singular man, though he was never charged with doing an unmanly thing. He was a good husband, an accommodating neighbor, a true friend. Mr. Loomis closed with a touching farewell to his dead friend and the body was borne out, just as the evening twilight was filling the church with its deepening shadows.

A large concourse of friends followed the coffin to the Hollenback Cemetery. The pall bearers were Urbane Dilley, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, G. B. Kulp, M. H. Post, William Dickover, Anning Dilley.

The body was accompanied from Chicago by the widow. Her daughter May, Mrs. George Denell, came from Brooklyn, with her husband. Deceased is survived by three daughters, all married except Miss Kate,

who resides at home, and by one son, Eugene, who is married and living in Chicago.

A married daughter, Jessie, Mrs. Mott, also lives at home. Mrs. Harvey is the guest of her niece, Mrs. J. H. Sauermilch. Quite a number of her relatives were present from points throughout the county. It will be remembered that Mrs. Harvey's mother, Mrs. Totten, died in Chicago four years ago and was brought to Wilkes Barre and buried under circumstances almost identical with the burial of Mr. Harvey, from the Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Harvey had visited his daughter in Brooklyn only a fortnight previous to his death, having taken a trip East in the hope to benefit his health.

**Death of Mrs. George Wells.**

At 10:30 o'clock pm. Nov. 11, Mrs. George A. Wells died at her home, 68 South Street. Mrs. Wells was lying at the point of death during the whole day and anxiously the watchers at her bedside waited for the parting asunder of all earthly connections, knowing it to be but a question of a few hours. The report of her serious illness cast a profound sorrow over all who heard of it. She had been ailing with a nervous and heart affection, the latter being the immediate cause of her death. Mrs. Wells was born in Plymouth, Ohio, on the 10th day of February, 1837. She was a daughter of Dr. E. Benscoter, of that place. She remained in Plymouth until her marriage to Dr. Wells, of this city, October 7, 1857. A family of three daughters survive her—Nellie M., Mary M., who are living at home, and Jessie L., wife of Albert Tillyer, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Wells was another of those women whose everyday life conforms to the noblest traits of character. Her virtues were so many and so apparent as to embellish with their contact everything with which she was associated; and on this account those who knew her best will most seriously feel and regret her death. She brought her age to fifty-one years. The funeral took place from the residence on South Street on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

**A Bridge Builder's Daughter Dead.**

Mrs. Adeline Hotchkiss, aged 76 years, died on Saturday, Oct. 21. The funeral took place Monday at 2 pm. from the residence of Thomas Lavelle, on Hazle Street, near the Charter House. The deceased was one of the oldest residents in this city and was born in Plymouth Township. She was the daughter of Mr. Raub, who was in his day a bridge builder and who aided in putting up the old river bridge.

**Death of Henry Ansbacher.**

Nov. 15, at 10:35 pm., occurred the death of Henry Ansbacher, one of Wilkes-Barre's oldest citizens. He was a little over 69 years of age, being born in Seckendorf, Bavaria, Oct. 5, 1819. He came to this country in 1840, and for seven years thereafter was a resident of New York City. In 1847 he came to Wilkes-Barre and entered the jewelry business. In this he was engaged until 1876, and by close attention to business and strict integrity he amassed a fortune. Upon his retirement from business he was succeeded by his son, Solomon L. Ansbacher, now a resident of New York.

The deceased was one of the 12 original members Baai Brith Lodge, established in 1848, and which now has branches in every important city in the United States and Europe. He was also a charter member and first president of Hoffnung Lodge, I. O. O. F. His name among business men was a synonym for uprightness and honesty.

He leaves a wife, Cecelia Ansbacher, a sister of Mrs. Abram Strauss, and the son already mentioned.

**Henry Ansbacher Buried.**

The funeral of the late Henry Ansbacher took place Sunday at 2 pm. from the residence, 38 South Washington Street. The attendance was very large. Rev. Dr. Rundbaken officiated and spoke in the most affecting manner of the deceased. The pall bearers were Joseph Coons, Ig. Freeman, N. Eisen, Leon Levy, Max Rosenbluth, Henry Shubach and Simon Long. Among intimate friends who were present to pay their respects to the dead were Gen. Osborne, F. V. Rockafellow, Richard F. Walsh, Hon. W. H. Hines, Wm. Keith, Wm. J. McLaughlin, Wm. Sobrage, Attorney Anthony Campbell and others.

**Henry Ansbacher's Will.**

The will of the late Henry Ansbacher was probated in the register's office Nov. 21. The provisions and bequests contained in the document are as follows:

"All debts, if any, and funeral expenses shall be paid.

First, I give unto my beloved wife, Cecelia Ansbacher, in lieu of dower, as follows: All that certain real estate fronting at 28 and 30 South Washington Street, running through to Fell Street, 56 feet front and 240 feet or more in depth.

Second, All that certain house and lot at 139 East Market Street, now occupied by George A. Lohmann for hotel purposes; to have and hold to my said wife, Cecelia

Ansbacher, during her life, with full authority to her to rent the said property during her life, and she shall out of the rents keep the buildings upon said lands insured, in proper repair and pay all taxes.

Item—I give and bequeath to my wife all my household goods and all the income that may arise from dividends upon any of my stock in the Wilkes-Barre Water Co. I direct that the interest of \$5,000, at 5 per cent.; shall be paid in quarterly installments to my wife by my son, Solomon L. Ansbacher, and that the same shall be charged upon the house at No. 101 Public Square. All these devises and bequests are for the life of my wife *only* and are intended to be in lieu of all claims and rights under the intestate laws of this Commonwealth.

Item—All the rest and residue of my estate, real and personal and mixed, I give, bequeath and devise unto my son, Solomon L. Ansbacher, to hold to himself, his heirs and assigns, forever."

Mrs. Ansbacher and her son, Solomon, are named as executors.

The will was dated 21st March, 1887, and was witnessed by S. J. Staus and G. L. Halsey.

As will be seen by the will his son will receive the house and lot on the Public Square now occupied by the United States Express Co., and the Forest House property, not mentioned in the will. The personal property is appraised at \$15,000, and his real estate is said to be worth \$100,000. There are other minor articles not mentioned in the will, but the estate altogether is valued at \$125,000.

**FREDERICK FICK'S WILL.**

The will of Frederick Fick was admitted to probate Nov. 31. His estate is valued at \$3,000, which he gives to his wife, Caroline Fick, for her use during her lifetime. After her death it reverts to his four children, Wilhelmina, wife of Gustav Kintzel, Pauline, wife of Charles Goerner, Fredrica, wife of Conrad Ahrndt, and Carl Fick.

**Mr. Swoyer's Insurance.**

The late J. H. Swoyer carried an insurance of \$85,000 in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, of New York. Of this amount \$10,000 was payable to Mrs. Swoyer and it was paid to her soon after her return from Europe. The other \$75,000 was payable to his children by his first wife and the amount was paid them on Wednesday. At one time Mr. Swoyer carried insurance amounting to over \$100,000.

**HON. E. C. WADHAMS DEAD.**

**Yielding to a Paralytic Stroke After Hours of Unconsciousness—Brief Sketch of His Life.**

Another representative citizen of Wilkes-Barre, a man honored and respected, has passed away. Hon. E. C. Wadhams died at 8:45 pm., Jan. 18, surrounded by the members of his family. He had been sinking since Wednesday and for 86 hours had been unconscious. Some days ago he sustained a second paralytic stroke, the right side being affected. He rallied from this and it was thought he would recover, but a relapse came and all hope was abandoned. He did not regain consciousness before death, but slept quietly away without any apparent suffering.

He was born in Plymouth July 17, 1826, in the same place where his father, Samuel Wadhams, was born. He was educated at Dana's Academy, in this city, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., and the University of the City of New York, from which latter institution he graduated in the class of 1847. After his departure from college he located in Plymouth, where he was extensively engaged in the mercantile business, having associated with him for a time J. F. Reynolds. He was also a justice of the peace in Plymouth for twenty years and Burgess seven years. While there he identified himself with every admirable progressive movement that was inaugurated. He was also largely interested in the coal business at a time when coal was shipped down the canal in arks or flat bottomed boats. For many years he was a director of the Wyoming National Bank and First National Bank of this city, and also president of the latter. In 1873 he removed to Wilkes Barre, and in 1874 erected his residence on South Franklin Street. In November, 1876, he was elected to the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania and here he exhibited the same industry and determination that have been marked characteristics all through his life. On October 7, 1861, he married Esther Taylor French, a daughter Samuel French, of Bridgeport, Conn., who survives him. He leaves the following children: Samuel French Wadhams, an attorney at law; Ellen Hendrick Wadhams; Cornelia Frances Wadhams, Moses Waller Wadhams, an attorney; Stella Catlin Wadhams; Lydia French Wadhams, and Ralph Holberton Wadhams, a student at Amherst College.

Mr. Wadhams was a man of decided force of character, scrupulously honest and of decided opinions. He always lived up to his convictions. His loss will be severely felt in many directions, but most of all in the Central M. E. Church, where he has always

been of the highest value in church and Sunday school work. He was for a long time president of the Wyoming Camp Meeting Association. The sphere of life in which Mr. Wadhams moved includes so many diversified interests that justice cannot be done in a short sketch. His life will be more fully noted later.

Tuesday afternoon the remains of Hon. E. C. Wadhams were consigned to the grave. It was an afternoon that brought sorrow to many a heart. The body was lying in state in the front parlor during the whole day. At 12:30 o'clock about three hundred scholars from the Central M. E. Sunday School proceeded in a body to the residence on South Franklin Street and cast a farewell look upon the form of their late superintendent. It was sad indeed to witness this parting scene. Each scholar, from the youngest to the oldest, filed past the casket with bowed head and solemn look.

At 2 o'clock, when the services began, the house was filled with the mourners and even in the yard many stood and occasionally caught a few strains of the music and sentences from the lips of the minister. The remains of Mr. Wadhams reposed in a beautiful casket; and to one who knew him before the spirit was transferred to another world, it was evident that death had not bereft the form of all its beauty. Though the eyes were closed and the lips were sealed, yet there seemed to play around the face that gentleness and friendliness that marked his life and placed a spot in the memory of the community that shall be green so long as virtue finds a place in the affections of mankind. The several rooms were scented with the fragrance of flowers. At the head of the casket was intertwined in beautiful roses the word "Father," at the foot another tribute of nature's fairest plants and on the mantel was a circular bank of flowers imbedded in which were the words, "He Whom we Loved."

Rev. J. Labar read a passage from the scriptures, then a quartet, composed of Dr. D. J. J. Mason and his brother and Misses Baur and Frear sang "Rock of Ages." Rev. A. Griffo, the pastor with whom he had been so intimately associated in his Christian work, then began to speak. During the course of his address the large audience looked through tear dimmed eyes. Resolutions passed by the Wyoming Camp Meeting Association were read. The quartet sang, "Asleep in Jesus," and the services were at an end. The mourners then took seats in the carriages, which formed a line extending from Ross to Academy Streets. As the casket was being borne from the house, the bell in the steeple of Central Church, just across the

way, commenced tolling. The audience stood along the pavement as if in deep thought. The first score knells seemed to speak of his childhood and early manhood, the time when was formed that power that is now so sadly missed; the last taps of the bell called up his closing years, and through the spirit's eye saw the matured character, the full-flown rose that cast an ever fragrant breath. When the tolling ceased the cortege was far on its way to Hollenback Cemetery. Among the ministers present besides the officiating clergymen were Rev. Bone, Loomis, Van-Sobotok, Fuller, Jenkins, Santee and LaBar, of the Methodist Church, Frear, of the Baptist, Webster and Hodge, of the Presbyterian, and Levan, of the Reformed. The pall bearers were F. M. Garhart, Charles P. Hunt, Roger Miller, W. J. Smith, Charles Parrish, and W. S. McLean.

The death of Hon. E. O. Wadhams causes universal sorrow throughout this city and valley. The demise of any public benefactor, whether he be a philanthropist or noted more especially for some other marked virtue in his character, is as the breaking of some environment almost essential to the community. The more extensive the acquaintance the more will the silence be felt.

The family of Wadhams had its origin in Devonshire, England, and its name comes from the place of its residence, which signifies "home by the ford." The manor of Wadhams belonged at one time to an old Saxon by the name of Ulf, who held it in demesne since the time of Edward the Confessor, 1042. It is thought that Ulf is the more immediate ancestor of the Wadhams. Nicholas Wadhams one of his descendants, was the founder of Oxford College, Merrifield, of Somersetshire, came into possession of Sir John Wadhams, Knight, by marriage, and his descendants were generally known as "Wadhams, of Merrifield."

The first of the name to emigrate to America was John Wadhams, who settled in Connecticut in 1650. His great grandson, Nehah, was a distinguished man, and figured conspicuously in the history of Connecticut. In 1799 he embarked with the flock of which he was pastor, amid the perils which lay before them, to the distant shore of the Susquehanna, a wilderness made more forbidding because of the savage people who were in possession of the valley. The year succeeding the Wyoming Massacre he removed to Plymouth.

Samuel Wadhams, the father of Hon. E. O. Wadhams, was born in Plymouth in 1806.

He married Olovinda Starr Ostlin, of New Marlboro, Mass., and died December 15, 1863, "as he had lived, an upright and worthy Christian member of society."

Hon. Elijah Ostlin Wadhams, son of Samuel Wadhams, was born in Plymouth, July 17, 1825. His education in Dana's old Wilkes-Barre Academy, his subsequent graduation from the University of New York, and his official positions as justice of the peace and Burgess in Plymouth for more than a score of years have been mentioned in a previous article. Having his residence there he established an academical school, which he personally supervised for twelve years, when he relinquished it. In 1869 occurred the Avondale disaster, resulting in the loss of 108 lives, a disaster from the memory of which the mind naturally turns with but a faint comprehension of its enormity. Mr. Wadhams was one of the acting coroners at the inquest over this quaintable score of smothered human beings. The fund for the relief of the widows and orphans aggregated \$155,825 10, and Mr. Wadhams was made president of the Avondale Relief Fund Committee. The task of proportionate distribution and care of the funds, was one of no small concern. In 1878 he removed to this city. In 1878 he was elected to the Senate for a period of four years, Edwin Shortz being his Democratic opponent. He was a director of the Wyoming Bank, afterwards the Wyoming National Bank, for more than thirty years, and was president of the First National Bank, of this city. Subsequent to his filling the position as superintendent of the Central M. E. Sunday school of this city, he acted in a like capacity in the M. E. Sunday school of Plymouth. Industry he recognized in his official and private enterprises as the key-note to success, and this under circumstances of momentary adversities as well as prosperity.

The wife of Mr. Wadhams is Eather Taylor French Wadhams, whom he married Oct. 7, 1851. She is the daughter of the late Samuel French, a descendant from an old and distinguished Connecticut family.

Many of Mr. Wadhams' relatives are well and favorably known, some of them as occupying important positions in this and other parts of the country. Mrs. L. D. Shoemaker, of this city, is a sister. The late Moses Wadhams, Esq., of this city, was a brother, as was also the late Calvin Wadhams, who built the Memorial Presbyterian Church, in this city, in memory of his three deceased children, at a cost of \$125,000. The surviving children of the deceased have already been mentioned. Many of these facts were gleaned from Kulp's Families of Wyoming Valley.

Mr. Wadhams was a prominent Mason, being at one time identified with Plymouth Lodge.

The beneficent influence of such a life as this upon the community can scarcely be estimated. Here was a conservatism which precluded unripe decisions of judgment, but did not prevent an influence being cast always in the direction of healthful progress and improvement in all affairs with which he was identified. He was gifted with a sound constitution, unimpaired by any organic trouble, but his untiring energy and consequent hard work doubtless shortened his life. In church matters he coupled faith and works. His work in the official affairs of the church with which he was identified, and his earnest endeavors as superintendent of the Sunday school are monuments in themselves. Mr. Wadhams was of a decided social nature. He loved to have his friends about him and was a successful and courteous host ever. He combined a liberal education and culture with a high standard of manhood, tempered with that essential factor, common sense. The many associations of a business, social or religious sort to which the deceased belonged will sincerely mourn the loss of an enthusiastic worker, a valued official and an upright citizen.

Mr. Wadhams had accumulated a good portion of this world's goods, though the exact value of his estate is not known.

#### An Old Citizen Dead.

Charles P. Barton, a brother of Samuel Barton, at one time postmaster of this city, died at his home in Lehman, where he had lived on a farm for many years, on Nov. 27, aged 84 years. Mr. Barton was a son of Job Barton, an old time citizen of Wilkes-Barre, who formerly owned property and lived on Union Street, adjoining the Hillard Mill property. His mother was a daughter of William Wright, and sixty years ago taught school in a small frame house, where the family resided. There are, perhaps, some old gray headed men now in this city who first learned their A B C's at the knee of good Mrs. Barton.

#### Lived Here Many Years.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Stewart died Monday night at her home, 142 Parrish Street, aged 78 years. She is survived by Frances A. wife of M. G. Smith, Mrs. Henrietta Underwood, Mrs. Ruth Dodson and Charles A. Stewart. Deceased was an old resident of Wilkes-Barre and was a native of Connecticut. She was a member of the Parrish Street M. E. Church. Funeral Thursday at 2 pm.

#### SEVENTY YEARS OLD.

Thomas Lazarus, a Respected Resident of Buttonwood, Passes Away.

The following account of the sickness and death of Thomas Lazarus is furnished the Record by Rev. W. J. Day, of Ashley:

Thomas Lazarus, of Buttonwood, passed away from this scene of toll and suffering at 5 o'clock Wednesday, Dec. 12. He sleeps his last sleep till the morning of a brighter and sublimer day dawns upon this vale of tears. He was born in Smithfield, near Stroudsburg, Pa., at a place called Cloudy Hollow. He came to this valley with his father, George Lazarus, when he was a child but one year old, and at his decease was 71 years, 11 months and 18 days old. Seventy years ago his father, George Lazarus, owned all that all that stretching from the river to mountain back of Ashley, and the plot of ground on which the Ashley Presbyterian Church is built was the gift of George Lazarus. Thomas Lazarus is the last one of the three brothers, John, George and Thomas. Two sisters remain to mourn his loss. Mrs. Mary Blodgett and Mrs. Sarah Blanchard, now 89 years of age.

His wife, the companion of his years, for months had been extremely ill, and was somewhat improved in health, but his devoted attention to her in her sickness broke his constitution, and when pneumonia set in all remedies failed in prolonging his life. His wife and seven sorrowing children deplore the loss of an affectionate father. His children are Mrs. Lucy A. Lender, George Lazarus, Mrs. Margaret D. Bennett, Mrs. Lucinda M. Brundage, Chester B. Lazarus, Mrs. Stella Brader. One child, Mary, died when thirteen years old. Mr. Lazarus was one of the old style men, honest, upright, walking before men in the conscious pride of integrity of life. His word as good as his bond; his life a life of usefulness, and his home characterized as the abode of quietness, peace and hospitality. And when, the shadows of death gathered about him he had a light that illuminated the gloom, the sun of righteousness, who brightens the dark valley with the glory that shines from heaven.

#### Death of Hon. E. F. Bull.

A few months ago Elisha Follett Bull Esq., of Ottawa, Ill., visited Wilkes-Barre in apparent health and strength. Those who met him will be pained to hear of his death, which occurred Dec. 4, 1898, at the age of 54 years. He was a great-grandson of Elisha Follett, who fell in the Wyoming Massacre.

**Death of Mrs. E. S. Morgan.**

The many friends of Mrs. Mary W., wife of Councilman E. S. Morgan, were shocked to hear of her sudden death, which occurred on Saturday morning, at the residence on South Franklin Street, just below Sullivan. That dreadful malady, cerebro-spinal-meningitis, was the cause of her death. She had been out on Thursday, and was not feeling badly except that she had a slight cold. To sid in breaking up the cold she took to her bed Thursday evening, using simple remedies and not deeming the services of a physician at all necessary. On Friday morning she grew worse and a physician was sent for. Before dawn on Saturday morning she grew unconscious and died at 9 o'clock, notwithstanding the administration of every remedy that skill could suggest.

The deceased was known and respected among a very large circle of friends. She was connected with the Franklin Street M. E. Church, of which Sunday school her husband has long been the secretary. Mrs. Morgan was of kindly and affectionate disposition, of ready sympathy and of noble traits of character. She was the third daughter of W. S. Wells. O. D. Wells, of Wilkes-Barre, is a brother, and there are three sisters—Mrs. Edwin Watt, of Carbonale; Mrs. Harry Courtright, of Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. N. H. Davis, of Jenningsville, Pa.

The father and mother of the deceased are still living, Mr. Wells being 73 years of age and Mrs. Wells 70. A notable thing in connection with this death is that it is the first which has occurred in the family in 52 years.

Mrs. Morgan was 39 years of age. Two daughters survive her—Grace, aged 11, and Martha, aged 7.

**Death of Mrs. Harter.**

Sunday about noon Mrs. Frank Harter died at her home on Main Street, above Jackson, aged 49 years. Mrs. Harter had been ill for some time with a kidney trouble, but it was only three weeks ago that she was prostrated. At the last the malady assumed a paralytic form. Deceased is survived by her husband and seven children, all living in Wilkes-Barre. One daughter is the wife of Jacob Batz, and another is Sister Mary Evangelist, in St. Mary's Convent. The other children are L. P. Harter, Charlie and Willie, and Matilda and Anna, all of whom except L. P. reside at home. Mrs. Harter's maiden name was Bridget King, and she has a brother, her only relative, living in Pleasant Valley, John King. The funeral was on Wednesday at 9 a. m., from the house, with mass at St. Mary's R. C. Church, of which deceased was a member. Interment was at Hanover.

**A Pioneer's Daughter Dead.**

The Athens (Pa.) *Gazette* reports the death on Dec. 28, 1888, of Mrs. Juliette M. Ely, aged 81. She was born in Owego, N. Y., in 1807, and was the daughter of Wm. Camp, one of four brothers who were pioneer merchants in Owego. Her father lost his life in 1826, as a passenger on the ill-fated steamboat which was plying the upper Susquehanna from Wilkes-Barre to Tioga. The *Gazette* says:

Her father was William Camp, one of four brothers who were pioneer settlers and merchants in Owego. Their business required an annual trip to New York City; and when returning from such a trip in 1826, William Camp took passage at Wilkes-Barre on board a steamboat which had been fitted up to ply between that place and Owego. This was the trial trip of the boat, and proved disastrous. The boiler burst and injured several passengers, among them Mr. Camp, and he died in a few days. Mrs. Ely's mother was Abigail Whittlesey, the only daughter of Captain Asaph Whittlesey, who, with his command of forty men, was killed at the Wyoming massacre in June, 1778. But before the battle began Captain Whittlesey placed his daughter, who was a babe of fourteen months, on a raft in charge of a hired man, and sent them down the river. Her life was thus saved, and she was subsequently sent to Connecticut and reared by her father's relatives, and was married to William Camp about the year 1800.

**Death of Peter Kropp.**

Peter Kropp, Sr., died at his home 71 Ross street, at 3:15 o'clock Sunday, Jan. 13, from jaundice and heart disease. He was 73 years of age. He had been ill for some weeks, and confined to his bed but a few days. The deceased was born in Stein-alben, Bavaria, came to New York in 1837. It was on the 3d of July in 1838 that he reached here, walking at that time all the way from Mauch Ohunk. He was married to Annie Hilbert April 2, 1840, and she survives her husband. The children born to them and now living are Mrs. Jno Frey, Arthur O. Peter Jr., Henry, George, Mrs Annie Auke, and Fred. Kropp.

The deceased, in his early days, was a member of the Wyoming Artillerists under Capt. Dana. There are three sons dead, John O., who was a brave soldier in the 143 Regt., and who was shot and killed at the battle of the Wilderness; and Charles and Christian. The deceased was an honored citizen. During his entire life he was an upright business man, and one of the leading Germans of this city. His death

will be a surprise to many outside his family. Funeral Wednesday, 2:30 P. M. Interment in city cemetery.

**Death of Mrs. Eliza A. Goodwin.**

Mrs. Eliza A. Goodwin, of Kingston, died at her home on Thursday, Oct. 25, at 7 pm., at the age of 61 years. For about a year Mrs. Goodwin had been failing, and for the last month she was closely confined to her room, finally succumbing to a brain difficulty. She was conscious up to within a few hours of her death. Mrs. Goodwin was the wife of the late Philip M. Goodwin, who died about 12 years ago. He had some years before his death associated with his brother, Abram Goodwin, in the drug business at Kingston. Later, however, he retired from active business, having a nice competence from coal property and considerable real estate on Roes Hill, Kingston, and on the Kingston flats.

Mrs. Goodwin had resided nearly 20 years in Kingston, having come there from near Waverly, Pa. She was for many years a member of the Kingston M. E. Church, and was, while her strength lasted, identified with and active in all church work. Mrs. Goodwin's home was always an exceedingly hospitable one. She was fond of entertaining her friends, and she was always happy herself when able to make others happy.

The deceased leaves four children: Mrs. W. L. Dean, of Kingston; Frank, of Holton, Kansas; John, of Kingston, and Mrs. I. W. Brown, of Red Oak, Iowa.

Thomas Groevnor of Scott, Lackawanna County, is a brother of the deceased, and Mrs. Norman White is a sister.

**A Luzerne Lady's Death.**

Mrs. Catherine Terry, wife of O. F. Terry, died at her home in Luzerne Borough, shortly after midnight Sunday morning. Mrs. Terry was born in Dallas, Oct. 12, 1832, and was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Honeywell. She is survived by her husband and by four children—William H. and Ellie Terry and Mrs. Lucinda Lungler, of Wilkes-Barre, and James P. Terry, of Kingston, also by several brothers and sisters—Barney R. Honeywell, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. James Patterson, of Trucksville; Alfred Honeywell, of Lake; Mrs. Harned Oakley, of Dallas, and Mrs. H. N. Siekler, of Buffalo.

Deceased had been a member of the Methodist Church for 46 years and died in the happiness of a triumphant faith, her last words being that she would be waiting on the other side to greet her husband and children.

Funeral Tuesday at 11 o'clock, from Luzerne. Interment in Trucksville.

**The Late Rev. A. C. Smith.**

[Communicated.]

The subject of this sketch was born in Scotland January 1, 1822. About the year 1837 he left his native land for a home in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where he was for a time employed in the mines. He was converted under the plain preaching of the Presbyterian minister of earlier days; and was led to feel that he had a call to preach the gospel. Previous to this, in 1841, he had married Miss Jane Hutchison, a daughter of James Hutchison, who also had come to Nova Scotia from Scotland. Miss Hutchison was one of a large family of children, of whom the remaining four are living in this vicinity. They are Mrs. Margaret Weir (widow), of Plymouth; Mrs. Wm. MacOnloch and Charles Hutchison, of Kingston, and James Hutchison, of Wilkes-Barre. His wife entered heartily into his plans of preparation for the ministry, which included a five years' course of study at the university at Halifax, under discouraging circumstances requiring great sacrifice. After over twenty years' service as a missionary and preacher in New Brunswick, and about the year 1837, he removed with his family to Kingston. In 1830 his first wife died, and in 1838 he married Mrs. Agnes Steele (widow), of Plains, who survives him. It was at Plains that he first commenced his pastoral work in this country, by organizing a Presbyterian society and erecting a church. Here he found warm friends and supporters, who stood by him to the last. Later he organized a society and erected a church at Mill Hollow, (now the Bennett Church at Luzerne) and for several years was pastor of the church.

He was a typical Scotchman, a man of strong convictions and steadfast in what was made known to him as a duty. In the position of pastor he was no more devoted and faithful than in his secular duties as a member of the school board of Edwardsville and of other organizations. At the time of his death he was chaplain of the Caledonian Club. There remain to mourn his loss besides the faithful wife, one son, John Smith, and three daughters, all married and residing at Edwardsville. The respect in which he was held was shown in the large concourse of people who attended the funeral held in the Kingston Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, Feb. 6, and the large procession of mourners who followed his remains to their last resting place, at Forty Fort Cemetery. He is remembered for what he has done. w.

**Never Needed Doctors.**

Edward Hunter, one of the oldest, if not the oldest, residents of Dallas Township, died on the Jan. 8, aged 88 years. He was the father of Elizabeth, wife of Lewis Mekeel, of Lehman; Agnes, wife of Joseph R. Swazey, of Ashley; William Hunter, of Dallas; Alice, widow of Henry Worthington, of Dallas; Sarah, wife of ex County Treasurer R. A. Whitman, of Lehman; Pamela, widow of Bradner Boushey, of Dallas; J. L. Hunter, of Pittston, and Miss Emma, living at home. The late Mrs. Leonard Macbell, the late Mrs. Jesse Hallock and the late Mrs. Wm. Husted were daughters. Mr. Hunter, and his wife came to this country from England some 50 years ago, his wife dying four years ago. He was a farmer.

Mr. Hunter was a remarkably vigorous man and up to the time of his final sickness he had never needed a doctor's advice and had never been sick in bed a day. His death resulted from an attack of pneumonia. The funeral took place on Thursday, interment at Lehman Center.

**A Pioneer Resident Dead.**

John Wilson died at his residence on Carey Avenue, this city at 9 o'clock p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12, at the advanced age of 85 years and 6 months. Mr. Wilson emigrated here from England in the early days of this city and was among the pioneers of the Valley. He is the father of a large family. Among those now living are Robert Wilson, of Wyoming; Edward Wilson, of Plymouth and John Wilson, Jr., of Plains; Mrs. Wm. Toomb, Mrs. Geo. Frace and Mrs. Sylvester VanHorn, of this city. His illness which was the first of his life, was long and tedious and his end was caused by a cancer of the throat. The funeral took place from his late residence at 2 o'clock Monday.

**Going Over an Ancient Survey.**

The *Montrose Republican* is publishing a series of articles by Prof. W. L. Thacher on the history of Harford, Susquehanna County. Mr. Thacher is a prominent engineer and his articles are of great value. A recent one described a re-survey of the historic Nine Partner Tract, recently made by Prof. Thacher and several other surveyors. They succeeded in finding all the boundaries, a hundred years not having blotted out the tracks of the original pioneer surveyors, though many of the points of reference, such as trees, had disappeared under the ravages of time. A still later issue rehearsed the doings and experiences of a company of surveyors who passed through Wayne and Susquehanna Counties in 1783. It was furnished Prof. Thacher by Rev. David Torrey, D. D., of Oazenovia, N. Y.

**First Time in 88 Years.**

A raft loaded with mine props, commanded by Capt. Dietrick, of Meeshoppen, passed Port Blanchard Jan. 15 at 5 p.m. for lines Station, near Plainsville. The props are for the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. A resident of Port Blanchard, a well-known navigator of the Susquehanna, says it is just 88 years ago since a raft was run down the river in the month of January.

**The Thomas Monument.**

Mr. Oliver Williams, of Catsasqua, is booming the proposed David Thomas monument project enthusiastically, notwithstanding that Pottsville, Mauch Chunk, Danville and Phoenixville, each claim that they are entitled to the honor. An exchange says:

There is no doubt that the furnace which Mr. Thomas, with so much skill, pertinacity and courage, built and operated at Catsasqua, and which made its first cast July 4, 1840, may fairly be said to have begun the great industry of the Lehigh Valley; and "Father Thomas" deserves the glory of a semi-centennial; but Mr. Williams claims too much for the Catsasqua enterprise when he inadvertently speaks of it as the first successful anthracite-smelting of iron. To say nothing of the Welsh operations of 1837 and 1838, where Mr. Thomas himself gained the experience which led to his engagement for the Lehigh experiment, there were several earlier attempts, some of which certainly succeeded, in this country.

The Mauch Chunk furnace, built in 1837, was reported to be successful, and undoubtedly made iron from anthracite for several months, at the somewhat moderate rate of two tons per day. But then it was only 21½ by 5½ in size, so what could be expected?

The Pottsville furnace, which went into blast in July, 1839, failed in its first campaign; but was again blown in October, 1839, with complete success. It was still running well, as the late William Firmstone has testified, when he visited it in the spring of 1840. Mr. Firmstone declared that the success of this furnace caused four furnaces to be blown in with anthracite on the Schuylkill and Susquehanna during 1840; and that all of them were successful.

The Danville furnace, built in 1839, made 35 tons a week with anthracite and fossil-ore.

The Boaring Creek furnace, in the same region, blown in May, 1840, made 40 tons a week.

The Phoenixville furnace, blown in by Mr. Firmstone, June 17, 1840, made 28 to 30 tons per week, and ran well until it was drowned out by a flood in January, 1841.

Finally, the Columbia furnace, at Danville, was blown in two days before the Catsasqua furnace, namely July 2, 1840, and was also successful, making 30 to 3½ tons a week of foundry iron.

Mr. Thomas' furnace, blown in on the 4th of July, 1840, made 50 tons a week, and was drowned out in the following January, by the great freshet which, extending also to the Schuylkill, flooded the Phoenixville furnace likewise.



## THE LIBRARY OPENED.

**A Lecture by Prof. Melville Dewey—Inspecting the Accomodations—Ten Thousand New Books—The Reference Room—Details in General Arrangement.**

On January 28th, Wilkes-Barre's public library was formally opened to the public. The philanthropy of the late Hon. Isaac Osterhout will now bear its rich fruition.

The exercises in the chapel of the Presbyterian Church were opened with music by Oppenheim's orchestra. Rev. Dr. Tuttle delivered a prayer, after which Rev. Henry L. Jones introduced Prof. Melville Dewey, librarian of the Empire State.

Rev. Jones in his introduction said that it is still only a quarter of a century since the public library attained any prominence in our American life, and now between six and seven hundred are in operation. The librarian, once regarded as a jealous custodian, whose duty it was to guard some special collection of books from the touch of the profane, is now the public herald for the diffusion of the best reading among all sorts and conditions of men and rivals the schoolmaster in the education of the young.

Next to the institutions of religion and our schools of various grades and adaptations, a carefully selected and well regulated library is now considered one of the best of public blessings, whose intelligent use may be the means of uplifting the social and political, as well as the intellectual and spiritual life of a people. That such was the opinion of one of Wilkes-Barre's active and intelligent citizens (the late Hon. Isaac S. Osterhout), he evinced in the most practical manner, arranging before his decease (which occurred on the 12th of April, 1882, at his residence in this city) that the larger part of his estate should be placed in the hands of certain designated trustees, "to be held, appropriated and used to and for the use and purpose of founding, establishing and perpetuating in the city of Wilkes-Barre a free library." "This noble bequest," wrote one of his memorialists (Hon. E. L. Dana, president of the Board of Trustees, whose presence and active participation in these exercises we regret to miss) "was no sudden thought originating in the fevered and enfeebled brain of age and illness; it was no deathbed suggestion, but the result and outgrowth of long and mature thought and based on his perception of the dependence of the peace and prosperity of a community upon its virtue and intelligence." By the provisions of the will of Mr. Osterhout, and in order that by legal enactment his wishes as to the management of the library (by his chosen trustees and their self-appointed

successors) might be carried out, a delay of five years intervened before there could be any active administration of the trust.

We are now about to enter upon the partial enjoyment of some of the blessings that flow from the possession of our inheritance. The arrangements which have thus far been made by the trustees (with a view to the carrying out of the purpose of this bequest) await the inspection of the public at the close of these exercises. On and after tomorrow, between the hours of 10 am. and 9 pm., except on Sundays and legal holidays, the Osterhout Free Library will be open to all who desire to avail themselves of its privileges. While the library is chiefly intended to be of service for consultation and reference, placing within the reach of all, opportunities for research and attainment of knowledge, which ordinarily would be confined to the wealthy few, it has been determined (in order to extend its benefits as widely as possible) to experiment for a time at least, upon a circulating department, restricted only by ability to obtain responsible endorsers for value received, or in lieu thereof a deposit of money, to be retained for such time as one may desire to partake of benefits conferred.

Information in regard to all rules and regulations may be obtained at the librarian's desk hereafter.

The librarian desires the active co-operation of parents and teachers and friends of learning, to make this institution a hospital for crippled minds, quite as much as an aid to those persons who already understand and appreciate the blessings it may confer. She would be considered a friend of the seeker after knowledge and will be ready (to the extent of her ability,) to point out connections to be made, as well as delays to be endured, on the road to learning.

Between 10,000 and 11,000 books have been provided as the nucleus of what we trust may some day become one of the important libraries of our State and country. You will readily understand that our embarrassment has not been poverty of books, but richness and variety. It has been estimated that more than 25,000 volumes are published yearly. An English critic is reported to have said, that it would take more than three thousand years for the mere mechanical process of reading the books which either are or have been standard books of literature. Since our allotted span is brief (and the candle will not hold out till all are read,) it becomes necessary to select well and read wisely.

In all that has as yet been done toward the establishment of this institution, the trustees have been favored with the counsel and advice of a gentleman of large experience in library work, familiar

(by reason of that experience) not only with the care and selection of large and valuable libraries; but also with the training of those who are to be the future librarians of our land. It is our good fortune that this gentleman is with us this evening and willing to talk with us in regard to the important work we at this time inaugurate, and how best it may be brought into the closest sympathy and alliance with the people for whom it is intended. I have the pleasure of introducing to your attention Prof. Melville Dewey, lately of Columbia College, New York City, and now the librarian of the Empire State.

#### THE LECTURE.

Mr. Dewey said a librarian, who is active in his duties, has scarcely any time in which to read books. He may say to others, "Go ye into the land to possess it," but this is not his fortune, and, therefore, he is not supposed to be an adept at speechmaking.

Mr. Dewey then proceeded in substance as follows: The savage is distinguished from the brute by the power of speech, an uttering of the productions of the mind, and as we reach civilization we find a still higher endowment—the power of reading intelligently and thinking the highest and most ennobling thoughts. The ancients read their books in nature and from stones and tablets, but the moderns have opened to them a sphere where the facilities are multiplied beyond measure. The library and its development have had a peculiar history. First there was inaugurated the individual library, then the college library, the society or proprietary library, where the idea of mutual maintenance was first brought out. And many look as if to the first step when they think of that subscription library in which Benjamin Franklin was instrumental, when the fees were placed at 12s. per annum. Something more than that was needed. The universal idea of usefulness in this line is centred in the fact that books with all their value must be made free. The common school library and the endowed library came later. The Osterhout Library is an example of the latter—the gift of a philanthropist.

The speaker thought there is but one step higher—the public library, supported by a taxation of the people, and therein lies the enjoyment of a thing in which each one has a hand in establishing. The ideal library is the one in which you have taken the first step to-night.

The old fashioned library was a sort of reservoir—a miserly keeping of the books after collecting them—and the old librarian is looked upon as a jailer. Another library sprung up, a sort of amusement library, an ornament to a place, and for that it was

chiefly useful. The last type is the modern library, and it is well fitted to be an educational factor in the community—a living spring.

Speaking of the Osterhout Library, the speaker said it is to be Wilkes-Barre's university—a place where any person may be instructed in any study. This is a university not bounded by insurmountable limits. It reaches beyond the college or high school. About everything important gets into print, everything worthy of preservation on all subjects. And if each subject finds itself recorded in a public library, easy of access and so arranged that a person may extract from the folded leaves the subject upon which he wishes to be enlightened, then truly have a university. Our school education furnishes the tools with which to work; the library is the field in which these tools are to be used.

All nations recognize the United States as leading in the matter of libraries. The United States recognizes the New England States, and especially Massachusetts, as its head, and Massachusetts looks at Boston as the Mecca of the ideal library system.

Mr. Dewey paid many compliments to the chief librarian in Wilkes-Barre, and to her assistant. Her great experience in this work in Newton, Mass., where she developed the library system into almost perfection itself, commends itself to the patrons of our institution. She takes up the work here where she left off there. He explained the alleged difficulties in opening our library. Some people think, he said, that they open easily, like primroses, but this is a glaring error. If this library would have been opened sooner he would say, without having been here, that something was wrong. He had been into many hundreds of libraries in the performance of his duties, and without any undue compliment, he would say that none he had yet seen was more convenient or better adapted to the needs of the people. He hoped it would be well patronized. Not as was that magnificent library in Philadelphia, into which he had occasion one time to go, where instead of finding the tables all occupied, as they should have been, he found four persons. When he spoke to the librarian about this, he said: "Scarcely a day passes but that somebody comes in here." The great point now in your library, he said, is proper administration. With all things in your favor by practical test, it will be christened Wilkes-Barre Peoples' College, a place where will be recognized all that makes the best citizenship and townobility.

#### INSPECTING THE LIBRARY.

After the exercises were concluded the audience adjourned to the library proper, which fairly glowed with light, as if each incandescent globe realized that it must make

a good impression on the opening night. The main entrance is at the north tower and the vestibule has a significant warning in large capitals "Dogs not allowed inside." The canine population had evidently been left at home, as no trouble was experienced from this source. Once within, the long floor stretching away the entire length of the main room, about twenty feet wide is separated from the magazine, delivery and book rooms by a pretty bronzed wire parti-decks already mentioned, contain the card catalogues. This system will be better understood by one using it once, than by reading a description of it. The cards are arranged along a brass axis, in drawers, and alphabetically. The first drawer, for instance, will contain a list of subjects commencing with B. A card with turned over flap is labeled "Bible," and following this are a long number of cards to include the biography of the bible, commentaries upon it, concordances, criticism, dictionaries, evidences, geography of the bible, its history, introductions, national history of the sacred book, paraphrases, etc. And under each of these subheads are the works of different authors treating the of the divisions named—first the old testament, and after that the new testament. This is one instance, but it serves to illustrate the whole system. The cards are accessible at all times, and by their use not only general subjects may be found, but the various branches of that subject, so that one's investigation is directed to whatever department is necessary or desirable, without an aimless search on general principles. Along this roomy space mentioned, a manilla matting extends along the centre, and along the side is exposed the oiled floor.

At the left of the main entrance, and separated by the wire screen, is the magazine room, lighted by the immense front window. Here are placed at convenient intervals tables of quartered oak, beautifully made, and each supplied with an upright supporting an incandescent globe, with a large porcelain shade. At the right, as one enters, is the wicket communicating with the delivery room, from which the magazines may be obtained for perusal at the tables, and to which they are to be returned. The number is 76, embracing all the prominent American journals, with many European publications. Oaken hat and coat racks are conveniently placed, as are also umbrella stands. This furnishes the additional advantage of allowing the reader to be near his property, as even in the best regulated libraries umbrellas have been known to make faster time than a swift pedestrian. The delivery room also has a window space looking into the main corridor, where books are to be obtained. The system of record-

ing books drawn, the time kept, and the return, is complete in every detail, yet not obscured with unnecessary complications. Those who use the library will have to be over 12 years old. They sign a printed application for books, and also get a responsible person to countersign the application as surety. Unless this is done the application will have to be accompanied by a deposit of \$2. These precautions are established by precedent and are simply to protect the library property.

Within the main library space are 26 upright cases massive and highly polished, of solid oak. These contain the main body of the library, which consists of 10,651 volumes, a very fine start as will at once be conceded. Although the general public will not be usually admitted to the cataloguing and work rooms, a reporter was accorded that privilege *ex officio*, so to say. The former is at the southwest corner of the main room, separated by a partition. Here are two tables of antique oak, and type writers and other conveniences necessary for labeling and numbering the books neatly and expeditiously as they are received. The chairs in this room are massive and match the furniture. A large revolving book case stands between the tables. The carpet is Brussels, of a neat design. The work room is adjoining. Here the books are covered and passed into the cataloguing room through a window.

The reference library is the next to claim attention. This is entered through the main room, the cosy light of the reference room streaming through the door at the further end. Above and at the left of the communicating doorway is placed a very dignified clock in heavy oaken case. Between the main library and the reference room is a little hallway, with lavatory. This will, or ought to meet as much use as any of the numerous conveniences. Most people are not disposed to handle books with soiled fingers. But here there is no room for such an objection.

However pleasantly the main room, with its abundant light and heat, convenience and general arrangement, may impress the beholder, the sigh of admiration is reserved for the transformation which has been effected in the reference library. It is saying a great deal, but not saying too much, to declare that the beauty of this room, for the purpose it is intended to serve, could scarcely be surpassed. A Brussels carpet of Pompeian, with figures in Japanese chrysanthemums, covers the floor and introduces from the soft tread upon it a preliminary feeling of coziness. The pillars supporting the ceiling are of oak. At the side toward the street is an alcove in which a large book case is to be placed, to contain

the most valuable books. The arch of oak bears this inscription from Chaucer:

"And out of old booke in good faith  
Cometh al this new science that men lere."

On the opposite side is the fire place, which is a model of artistic taste. It is as large and roomy, almost, as the New England fire-places everybody likes to hear and read about. Two immense andirons of unique design in wrought iron, with cross bar, support the blazing logs. The oaken mantel bears two large Siam vases of rich design. Over all is the inscription:

"While I was musing the fire burned."

The screen is of oak frame, and heavy plate glass. It will protect the guest from the heat, but will not prevent the enjoyment of seeing the flames dance and writhe about the wood. Thus the objection to an immense fire-place is removed and all the charm retained. About the room are 15 oaken tables, each of which will accommodate four readers. A lamp of the same design as in the magazine room throws light over each, and at each corner is a slide which may be drawn out and used for writing purposes. The table legs also support a little platform about a foot from the floor on which packages, etc., may be placed temporarily. The chairs are comfortable and well built, of solid oak. On the north wall of the room is a large book case, containing a few books liable to be in constant demand. The cozy little office of the librarian, Miss James, is in the southeast corner of this room. Heavy curtains, supported on uprights of wrought iron and cross bars of brass, screen this from the room at large and insure a reasonable isolation for official duties. The tables already referred to will accommodate no less than 50, without crowding.

The opening of this mine of literary wealth inaugurates an era in the city history. Possibilities are here suggested that could be long dwelt upon. The elevating tone of this storehouse of knowledge upon the community can scarcely be estimated. It is pleasant to think about, to let one's imagination run a few years ahead in the matter, viewing it from all sides, but that is not the province of a newspaper.

The management and control of affairs is in the hands of Miss James, the librarian, and the evidences of her practical knowledge of the matter in hand are seen everywhere.

#### THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WARS.

*Some Points Gleaned From the History of the West Branch Valley—Indian Atrocities in Wyoming in 1763.*

Col. Meginness' history of the West Branch Valley, being published in 12 numbers at Williamsport, has reached Part 9, and the same is growing in interest with each number. The title of the new edition does not bear the original name of "Otainachson," and some of Mr. Meginness' readers have protested against the dropping of it. It was one of the early names of the West Branch of the Susquehanna and is well worth retaining. The last two issues have been devoted to a detailed account of the building of Fort Augusta, at the confluence of the two branches of the Susquehanna.

Chapter 12 is devoted to the battle of Muncy Hills and the barbarous murder of two friendly Indians by the whites. In Chapter 13 is an interesting reference to Wyoming. It reads:

"Oct. 13, 1763, Major Olayton with a force of 80 soldiers and volunteers arrived at the fort on their way to Wyoming. On the 15th Lieut. Hunter and 24 men belonging to the garrison joined the party, and they set off for their destination up the North Branch. On the 17th an express arrived with the startling news from John Harris that the Indians had killed 45 persons in Northampton County and that they were still engaged in their bloody work. He likewise said that the governor had sent a letter to Mr. Elder requesting that an express be sent after Major Olayton, notifying him to return. This was done and the major returned on the evening of the 20th. At Wyoming he found that 10 persons had been killed and scalped by the savages. They destroyed what cabins and corn they could find."

When fully equipped in 1768, Fort Augusta mounted from 12 to 16 guns, of English manufacture, ranging from six to twelve pounders. All have been lost sight of save one, and that is now in Sunbury.

In the next chapter is given another of the blots on our early life—the cruel and needless murder of 10 Indians in January, 1768, and the escape of the murderers from justice.

Mention is made of Robert Martin as the first settler on the site of what is now Northumberland. Martin was a native of New Jersey, and soon after attaining his majority he settled in Wyoming under the Pennsylvania title, but coming in conflict with the Connecticut claimants, he abandoned his farm and removed to Northum-

berland, a short time previous to the Fort Stanwix purchase of 1763.

An account is given of the laying out of the Manors of Pomfret and Muncy. Drafts of the surveys accompany the text and each shows the "path to Wyoming." Pomfret Manor was at the confluence of the two branches of the Susquehanna.

The history of the West Branch Valley is closely identified with the history of the Wyoming Valley and everyone interested in the latter should become a subscriber to the admirable work of Mr. Meginness. He can be addressed at Williamsport, the price of the book being three dollars.

#### Fair Wyoming.

Sing not, my muse, as if in love wert crossed,  
Of beauty's wane and beauty's battle lost.

Christened with joyful tears in verse divine  
That flowed, a poet named her "Fair Wyoming;"  
Whose lovely bowers were beauty's very shrine,  
Which he at once, with rapturous outbursts fine,  
And farewells fond, still echoed in the gloaming,  
Enshined in song, and glorified Wyoming!

When from her Indian first-love she was won,  
Her brave white lover whispered, "Fair Wyoming!"  
In the fond way he wooed her, was it done;  
In flowering field at rise and set of sun,  
In forest din all day, and flowerless loaming,  
While many a flint-lock flashed for fair Wyoming.

Not without sorrow did he win his bride,  
Herself a child of sorrow, fair Wyoming.  
Not with out glory, when their tears were dried  
In freedom's after-smile and patriotic pride,  
Whence falls a tender light, for meet illuming  
Of her remembered beauty, fair Wyoming.

She lifts her woodlands like a crown, but dotes  
Upon her dappled dingles, fair Wyoming!  
From Campbell's Ledge the vale-queen's banner  
floats,  
Hymned by the birds in blithe and plaintive  
notes,  
Glad for the bonny realms banned not from  
blooming,  
And sad for beauty blighted in Wyoming.

Chief of her splendors—hint of golden hair—  
Falling from head to foot of fair Wyoming:  
The flushing sunset's favorite river there  
A drifted dream of all that's bright and fair!  
Ah! back to Gertrude's day, is Fancy roaming?  
Or dreaming? Fleeting glimpses, fair Wyoming!

She is nor here nor there, the valley sprite,  
Her foot-falls, free, elude us, fair Wyoming!  
On hills that hide their hoarded wealth from  
sight,  
She sets her royal signet, daisy white,  
Forget-me-not and dandelion loaming,  
Queen of the wild-flower land of loved Wyoming.

The resurrected shine of suns long dead,  
Clad in dark cloud and rainbow glow in gloam-  
ing.

Oasts a weird grandeur where their shadows  
spread!  
For flaming flower, the flowering flame instead,  
That brightest blooms for Labor's sake con-  
suming;  
And oh! what sunbursts slumber in Wyoming!

Lo! in the dusk their shattered diamonds make,  
And green-eclipsing cloud, for fair Wyoming  
Plead many a pretty knoll and blooming brake,  
And little dewy dell, for beauty's sake!  
While wooded hills, where glimmers endless  
gloaming,  
Uplift their bannered green for fair Wyoming!

To hidden fields, 'midst lightnings harvested,  
And caverned night's awakened thunders boom-  
ing.

The torch-plumed reapers brave are charioted  
Adown the dark, while doom's own shadow,  
Dread,  
Flees from before their gay and fearless coming,  
Who left their loves in care of fair Wyoming!

Night's raring towers, day's phantoms dark  
that frown,  
But share industrial grandeur's wonted gloom-  
ing—  
Wizards, that rain the rock-reaped jewels down,  
And breaking them in sight of all the town,  
Pluck from the fossilised leaves of Time's en-  
tombing  
The golden flower of Fortune for Wyoming!

The city's splendors many a sylvan spot  
unfold, kept fresh and green for fair Wyoming;  
The vale queen's spell remains on grove and grot,  
Tho' half their haunting legends are forgot:  
While, by the river's bead, stands Summer, sum-  
ming  
Thy varied, verdurous charms, flower-sweet Wy-  
oming!

Over against the city's riotous shore  
Majestic trees, nurseries of wild Wyoming,  
Arise—elm, maple, oak and sycamore—  
Their domed green, delightful as of yore;  
Harping the hymns sublime, or softly humming  
The lullabies they learned of wild Wyoming.

And what grand tales yon beauteous river tells,  
In rhythmic flow, of far away Wyoming!  
And on the rustic legend how it dwells!  
With winding panorama which impels  
The wondering towns it turns to, in its roaming,  
To weave still grander fables for Wyoming.  
From the far glory of her girdling hills,  
To Flora's inmost fane, on fair Wyoming  
Lingers a grace of outline fine, which fills  
Brimful the sense of beauty! When morn spills  
Its crystal rills, or sunset gold is foaming,  
Once more the rays have found their fair Wy-  
omi-g

The old romance outdone still finds her fair:  
Half its romance the New owes fair Wyoming;  
Her name forever! web and woof as rare  
As erst enriched the legend-weavers care!  
First and last words of Wonder in the gloaming;  
Her miniature immortal, fair Wyoming!

— D. M. Jones, in Boston Pilot.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

#### ANGLO-IRISH BI-CENTENNIAL.

**The Siege of Londonderry—Curious Sentiments as to the True Relations Between England and Ireland.**

The RECORD is in receipt from a former townsman, David Galbraith, of copies of the *Londonderry Sentinel* of December 18th and 20th ult., giving a detailed account of the bi-centennial commemorative celebration of the shutting of the gates at the Siege of Derry. It was in the fall of 1688 when King James Second of England, assisted by a French contingent of considerable strength, determined to subdue the rebellious city of Derry, the citizens of which were mostly Scotch by descent and Presbyterian in faith. Derry at that time was small in extent, and being a walled city, was capable of sustaining a siege as against the ineffectual artillery of that day. It was on the 18th of December when King James' forces appeared before the city walls and demanded its surrender. The city authorities, mayor and aldermen were very much demoralized, and no resistance would have been made, had not thirteen daring apprentice boys rushed to the main city gate and closed it against the invaders. Immediately the citizens took heart, gathered upon the walls and hurled defiance, together with other more deadly missiles, against the foe. The siege lasted for months until all the available supplies of provisions were exhausted, and the people had to subsist on rats, dogs and whatever disgusting substances they could pick up in order to sustain life; but they were finally triumphant and King James' army suddenly retired from before the city, and the cause of William of Orange was sustained in the North of Ireland.

Accompanying the papers as a supplement is a reproduction of an ancient and rare engraving intended to group a number of the leading events together, and to give a pictorial panoramic summary of the entire siege, showing the batteries, trenches and approaches of the besieging forces, both English and French. The original picture is an etching by Romeyn de Hooghe, one of the most celebrated Dutch artists and engravers for a long time in the service of William of Orange, and though the etching may be little less than a rough rendering of the scene, it is full of interest to those hard-headed Scotch-Irish descendants of the brave defenders of that ancient city and their cherished religious principles, and is

realistically vivid with the clash and clamor of strife that raged around these coasts two hundred years ago.

In looking over some of the addresses delivered on the occasion by eminent divines and some others comparing them with the utterances put forth by our own people at some of our Wyoming battle and massacre observances on each recurring 3d of July, one can but remark that the same pride of ancestry attaches to the actors in that memorable contest in extolling their heroic and patriotic conduct in the hour of great peril and danger, as does to the memory of the noble three hundred of Wyoming's bloody day in breasting the overwhelming force of Indians and Tories in front of Fort Wintermute.

And again in glancing at the names of the men who participated in the bi-centennial gathering, one cannot be misled as to original home of our Pennsylvania Scotch Irish citizens who have done so much to elevate the old commonwealth of Pennsylvania intellectually among the sisterhood of states of the Union. We find in the list a Buchanan, a Pollock, a McOlland, a Scott, a Lowry, a Calhoun, a McOlintock, Alexander, Ferguson, Foster, Harding, Mitchell, Adair, Patten, Johnston, Glendinning, Harvey, Graham, Hamilton, Gordon, Stewart, McElwee, Walker, Flemming, Porter, McElroy, and many other names familiar as household words.

But one thing to be remembered is that the sentiments expressed by all at this gathering of Irish citizens of the better class were all so intensely English. Not a word said about Irish affairs that would seem to be convulsing that tight little isle from centre to circumference only in the toast the "Lord Lieutenant and prosperity to Ireland," given by the mayor; after which the band played "Patrick's day" with applause. This toast was responded to by the duke of Abercorn, who in the course of his remarks said "at the present time the office of a Lord Lieutenant is attended with, perhaps, more kicks than praise, but when the kicks are severely given, it is a proof that the Lord Lieutenant has done his duty to the best of his ability."

Speaking of the discord now existing in the Island, the noble speaker said "that eventually, probably, these discords may pass away, and then we may all, North and South, East and West, live in one free and great Union, using and abiding by one law, and this law the law of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." This is a very peculiar kind of Irish sentiment, as we understand it on this side of the ocean, but thus it is written and may be a surprise to some others as it was to us.

**WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Another Chapter From the Council Minutes—Interesting References to Some Destructive Fires and Rewards Offered for Arrest of Incendiaries.

III.

June 3rd, 1837.—The committee on the engine and matters connected therewith made a report, the substance of which is as follows: The engine is in a bad condition and needs repair, that the house from its open and dilapidated state is insufficient for the purpose intended. The committee recommend the building of a house and estimate the cost at \$75 dollars. In a central position on lands of George M. Hollenback, who, as owner, has signified his willingness to the committee for that purpose and further that a suitable person be selected to have the charge of the same, and in order to carryout the views of the committee report the following resolution:

Resolved, that the sum of seventy-five dollars be appropriated for the purpose of building an engine house on a vacant lot of G. M. Hollenback, on Franklin Street, near Market, to be sixteen feet in width and twenty-four feet in depth, with posts of ten feet in height, to be superintended by a building committee consisting of members of the council, whose duty it shall be to buy materials, employ workmen and do all other things in that behalf, and when completed to make a report setting forth size of said building, cost of materials and contracted price and such other matters in relation thereto as may be deemed proper.

[Signed] H. B. WRIGHT,  
W. S. ROSS,  
HUGH FELL.

The report and resolution was unanimously adopted. It was then moved and seconded and carried that a committee be appointed to erect an engine house and make report thereof in pursuance to resolution. Messrs. Wright, Ross and Fell were appointed that committee.

Sept. 23, 1837.—The undersigned, a committee appointed to build an engine house, respectfully report that they have superintended the construction of an engine house, located on the east side of Franklin Street, said building being sixteen feet in width and twenty four feet in depth with ten feet posts and sufficiently large for the purpose for which it was intended. Your committee have procured the assent of G. M. Hollenback, on whose land said building is erected, that it shall remain there so long as he shall not want to appropriate the land for the purposes of building himself, without anything by way of remuneration. Said building is set upon blocks and strongly framed and sealed with planks that it may

at any time be removed without injury. The cost and expenses are exhibited in the following schedule:

Materials found by Lewis Worrall..\$ 49 78  
Nails for house and look ..... 13 78  
Door hanging and iron for same ... 5 31  
Carpenter work by John M. Graver. 53 00

\$121 83

Your committee would therefore recommend that the first moneys coming into the treasury should be appropriated toward the payment of the engine house and that they would also suggest that the building should be immediately painted and that a committee should be appointed for that purpose.

[Signed] H. B. WRIGHT,  
WILLIAM S ROSS,  
Committee.

March 24th, 1838.—The undersigned, a committee appointed by your honorable bodies for the purpose of procuring a suitable situation for the small engine somewhere near the Public Square, beg leave to represent that they have applied to several of our good citizens who own property that your committee thought would answer, but in all cases where they applied to the owners of the property, objections were always raised, and your committee was not able to get a situation they would take of private property. Your committee have, under the circumstances, come to the unanimous conclusion to report a situation adjoining the fire proof near Col. Butler's steam mill, and therefore pray that they may be discharged from any further consideration of the subject.

[Signed.] HUGH FELL,  
A. W. CHAMBER.

On motion of Mr. Wright the motion was laid on the table for the present.

May 14, 1838 —Resolved, That G. P. Steele and L. Kidder, Esq., be a committee to make arrangements to move the small engine house on Public Square.

Feb. 11, 1840.—The President laid before the council a communication from the young men of Wilkes-Barre relative to the Reliance fire engine and on motion of Mr. Bidlack the proposition therein contained was accepted, and

Ordered, That the Reliance fire engine be placed in the hands of the young men when properly organized as a fire company, that the engine be placed in the hands of some suitable person for repair, and that the said company retain the same in their possession so long as the council may deem it expedient for the interest of the borough.

Dec. 5th, 1840.—On motion of Mr. Wright it was resolved, That the secretary be authorized to employ some one to put the Reliance engine in complete repair and that hereafter the control of the same be in the

Council if the company who heretofore had charge of the same be dissolved as the Council is informed.

Sept. 4th, 1841—Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to dispose of the old engine house at present on the premises of Z. Bennett, and to superintend the repairing of the fire engines. Messrs. Fell, Slocum and Bowman appointed said committee.

May 7, 1842.—Ordered that the Committee on Fire Engines be requested to make an immediate report and examination of the condition of the engines and to direct such repairs as they may deem proper and necessary.

Dec. 25, 1843.—Ordered that a committee of two be appointed to procure the thorough repair of the fire engines and superintend the same. Messrs. Bowman and Taylor were appointed the committee.

Jan. 18, 1844 —Application of a committee from Neptune Fire Company was read asking that the small engine be committed to their charge until council shall think fit to resume the same. On motion of Mr. Slocum, prayer of petitioners is granted.

June 21, 1845—Resolved, That a committee be appointed to select a site for the engine house and see that the engine house be moved without delay. Committee consisting of Messrs. McClintock and Puterbaugh.

July 24, 1848—Committee on Fire Apparatus authorized to procure four fire hooks and necessary ropes, chains, poles, etc.

July 17, 1848.—Resolved, That the burgess be authorized to offer a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the incendiaries who set fire to buildings in Wilkes-Barre on the 15th, 16th and 17th days of July inst., and that he be requested to issue his proclamation declaring that all laws against persons disturbing the peace or committing depredations of any kind will be rigidly enforced, also that the ordinances of the borough in reference to the procuring of fire buckets by the house holders will be strictly carried out, and to call upon all citizens to aid and support in protecting the persons and property of the borough.

Resolved, That until further ordered that in all cases of fire the council take charge of the fire apparatus and engines of this borough and assume the direction and control of the same.

On motion the council are appointed a committee to ascertain what persons in the borough of Wilkes-Barre (house holders) are in possession of fire buckets and those who are deficient, obtain a list and also to have published in the papers of Wilkes-Barre such parts of the ordinances in reference to procuring fire buckets as they think advisable.

Oct. 24 1848—Resolved, That the Chief Burgess be authorized to offer a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the persons who set fire to the flour and feed store of L. Myers on Main street, Wilkes-Barre borough, on the 16th and 23rd of October inst. Adopted.

Sept. 4, 1849—On motion of Josiah Lewis, Jr., Council appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars towards the purchase of an engine for the use of the borough.

March 5, 1850—On motion, V. L. Maxwell, treasurer, instructed to pay over what money there is in the treasury on order given for the fire engine.

April 16, 1850—Memorial of John Reichard concerning the small engine received and filed, and on motion resolved that the small engine be delivered over to the boys to get repaired and have charge of as a company, the control and right over it is to be and remain in the Town Council.

Resolved, that a statement of the council be made out and published in the *Wilkes-Barre Advocates*.

May 6, 1850—Resolved, That the account of the committee relative to appropriation of money to repair Reliance Engine and purchase hose be approved; passed, yeas 5 nays 1.

Resolved, That all the new hose now belonging to this borough be surrendered, given and granted to the Triton Fire Company; yeas 5 nays 1.

Dec. 10, 1850—On motion the Market House is allotted to the fire companies for keeping the engines and fire apparatus until next spring.

Oct. 20, 1851—On motion G. P. Parrish is directed to take charge of the small engine and remove it to a place near his pottery on Northampton Street, provided he keep it in a good place, put it in good order and keep it so at his own expense.

March 24, 1855—On motion the bill of Lewis and Stark for repairs to engine for \$112, be allowed for \$98 and order directed to be drawn, Reynolds voting no.

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#### Died at Seventy.

Mrs. Lavina Barnes died on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at her residence, 254 North Main at the age of 70 years and five months. The funeral was held last Saturday morning at 11 o'clock from the house. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

Deceased was the widow of George L. Barnes. She had long been a sufferer from heart disease and accompanying dropsy. She was the mother of George W. Barnes, D. & H. agent at the Baltimore mines, Samuel S. Barnes, machinist, Edward Barnes, and of Mrs. H. S. Mack.



### JUDGE OONYNGHAM.

Some Recollections of this Distinguished Jurist, as Read by Mr. Urquhart Before a Recent Masonic Banquet in Kingston.

It is the happiness of our Masonic banquets that they unite in social intercourse those who are bound together by the strongest ties of friendship, and 61 hereby accepts the fraternal kindness of 896 for having remembered her at this time.

While there are perhaps a dozen lodges in this county now, if we should go back to Feb. 18th, 1794, when lodge 61 was instituted at Wilkes-Barre, we should probably not find another lodge within fifty miles in any direction, which might imply that she exercised a Masonic jurisdiction over a geographical area of ten thousand square miles.

I hope the brethren of 896 will not bring against me the charge of preliminary egotism for rehearsing a brief memorial account of a Past Master Mason, who has long since passed the portals of time; for 896 may share with 61 in this Masonic reminiscence.

There is an unwritten and almost unknown past belonging to the fraternity represented here this evening, that is not only deserving of Masonic recollection, but is also worthy of mention here, and deserving of record among the annals of this locality; and it is confidently believed that a brief reference to the past of Lodge 61 will as a matter of public interest and of Masonic concern receive general favorable consideration.

The past history of our lodge is worthy of attentive study by every member of the fraternity; and it would be folly to permit the moral prejudices of this enlightened age to shut out a true view of the past, or to condemn what our ancestors worshipped.

Among the names on the register of our venerable lodge, we find those who have discharged the most important duties in this Commonwealth; men distinguished for their personal excellence, and whose beneficial influence in this county is universally admitted. At our last banquet I told you of a Kingston boy, who became a Mason, a soldier, a judge, and a governor, whom we all delight to honor.

To-night we go beyond the recollection of many of you, and it is desirable to get a firm grasp of the idea that the man we study is illustrious, in whose character there is no element for rejection, and if we examine his actions with the discriminating eye of common sense, and a real wish to see them as they were, a large residuum of interesting fact is rescued from oblivion and prejudice, and Masonic history is no longer simply a legend, but thereby becomes one of the most interesting pages in the annals of social progress.

In making reference at this time to the name of John N. Oonyngham, a past master of Lodge 61, it may be due to the estimable descendants, who prize the ancestral character, to whom any mention or opinion may appear unwelcome, to say that in that character the good so much predominates that its lustre will not be diminished by any mention of its different qualities.

This reference is made here with the view of inciting others from time to time to say something of interest to the Masonic fraternity; yet it is proper to say that while Judge Oonyngham, as a Mason, had a personality which will be pleasant for us to study and profitable to imitate, yet he was but known to the past generation by his professional consequence; and especially for his judicial status, which it is our duty and pleasure to acknowledge, for as a judge he was so esteemed at home and honored abroad, that neither the wantonness of envy, nor the virulence of faction, could ever invent anything to the discredit of his morals or his principles; and with a character of unblemished virtue, he ranked among the most consistent and spotless jurists of the land.

In his social intercourse he was frank beyond the suspicion of dissimulation, and never was thought capable of a dishonorable action.

By personal example he taught those habits of submission to lawful authority which are essential to the character of a good citizen and a useful member of society, believing that the great object of intellectual training is to gain the mental capacity of surmounting every kind of difficulty; and that much labor is required in the formation of a thoroughly educated mind; and himself possessing the qualities which command success, his opinions have rendered service to the judicial literature of the country.

As a man and brother his memory is endowed with unusual interest, for he was full of years and honors, richly earned by a life constantly employed in promoting and securing the best interests of the community in which he lived.

This pleasant feature of his character is mentioned as belonging more properly to his personal than to his professional capacity, for, although he was of a high order as an advocate, he was also of a high order as a citizen, which is interesting to those of us who are not within the limits of exclusively legal circles.

The dignity of the oriental chair was always maintained, and his great learning and judicial honor did not give his name so lasting a lustre as that piety and virtue wherewith he adorned all stations, and which showed his readiness and ability in forwarding religious enterprises. Further-

more, his memory is cherished by us for that untiring love of justice and truth, that unflinching integrity of purpose, that simplicity and benevolence of heart, and that kindness of nature, which leave us in doubt whether we should more revere the judge and master, or love the man.

Personally, his countenance was that of a man of the strongest sense, his eye penetrating and commanding, his stature full of dignity, his manners and address highly polished, and his voice, powerful and sweet, was never silent when right and liberty were to be upheld. He was an enlightened advocate of all useful reforms and in him was united the fire and energy of youth with mature experience and knowledge. His devotion to the truths of christianity was not owing to the prejudices of education, but arose from the most continued reflections of riper years and understanding. He left a name which we, with his family, cherish with tender pride, and his countrymen will remember with gratitude as long as they shall continue duly to estimate the great united principles of religion, law and government.

He was blest by nature with a clear and satisfactory manner of conveying his ideas, and his addresses at the laying of corner stones, which required Masonic ceremonies, showed that his memory was prodigious in readiness and comprehension; but above all there appeared a kind of benevolent solicitude for the discovery of truth, that won all to a thorough and implicit confidence in him. His physiognomy is remembered as being more expressive of gentleness of disposition and frank good humor, than of stern resolution.

In the midst of a great sorrow far from home, he suddenly sustained fatal injuries in a railroad accident, in which he displayed the most admirable fortitude and submission. There was the same sweetness of temper, composure of mind, love for his fellow creatures, and his dying expression, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," evinced that confidence in God which had distinguished his whole life.

May this unequal sketch in some degree perpetuate as an imperishable legacy what is amiable and admirable in our venerated past master and friend and may his life as a precious memorial be always embalmed in the remembrance of his fraternity and of a grateful people.

And may the recollection of him always recall those pure conceptions and effusive sentiments, which inculcate that charity which perfects every virtue, and which rendered our personal relations with him a memorable communion, the influences and advantages of which memory does not diminish nor time efface.

GEO. URQUHART, M. D.

#### A ROUSING BENEFIT.

**A Large Sum Raised for the Benefit of St. Stephen's Industrial School—Quality Costumes of the Olden Time.**

Loomis Hall never before held so large an assemblage as it did Feb. 19, on the occasion of the concert given for the benefit of the Industrial School of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The entire seating capacity, including gallery, was not sufficient to furnish all with chairs and many persons were obliged to stand throughout, though some found chair room in the aisles. Fully 500 persons were present. The affair was an overwhelming success, including in its patrons representatives from all the churches in town, including the non-Protestant and the Hebrew. The ladies in charge had reason to feel proud of the reception afforded their undertaking.

After the concert the ladies served refreshments in the dining room down stairs. It was midnight before all the guests were served. There was salad, ice cream, coffee, sandwiches and other eatables served on china, which went to the diner. The ladies looked charming in old-time gowns and jewels, ransacked from all the garrets in town. It was impossible to note them all, but a RECORD man succeeded in recording the following: Mrs. Brodrick, lace cap of her grandmother; Mrs. Garrett Smith, a dress 71 years old, belonging to Mrs. Brodrick's mother. Mrs. L. B. Landmesser, dress nearly 50 years old. Mrs. Russell Brown, an old dress worn in the girlhood days of her mother, Mrs. Keeler. Mrs. Henry L. Jones, wedding gown dating back 80 years. It was the property of Mrs. Ohas. A. Miner's mother, Mrs. Atherton. The dress worn by Mrs. S. O. Struthers was from the Gaston family and dated back a century. Mrs. Woodward Leavenworth, dress worn by Mrs. Brodrick's ancestry a century and a half ago. Miss Nan Leavenworth, dress worn by Mrs. Huribut years ago. Miss Mame Bell, her mother's wedding dress. Miss Julia Butler, a wedding dress of Mrs. Dr. Urquhart. Miss Miriam Ricketts, a hand embroidered cape, nearly a hundred years old. Miss Arnold, dress worn by Mrs. Priscilla Bennett in her maiden days. Miss Gould another antique dress from the Gaston treasures. Miss Minnie Brandow, a dress belonging to Mrs. T. F. Ryman, Miss Grace Kirkendall, a dress dating too far back for her young memory. Mrs. Hobbs, dress from the Leavenworth cedar chest. Besides there were many, young and old, in more modern gowns, with powdered hair.

### LUZERNE BOROUGH 50 YEARS AGO.

Observations Called Out by the Visit of an Old Resident After a Lapse of Half a Century—Old Houses Which Now Remain—The Residents of 1839

[Written for the Record.]

The area of Luzerne Borough is two hundred and ninety six acres.

Boundaries: Beginning in the centre of Union Street on the west side of D., L. & W. R.R., thence along the same north forty-six and a half degrees, east one hundred and thirty nine and a half perches to line between Pettibone estate and estate of Charles Bennet; thence along said line north thirty degrees and ten minutes, west two hundred and eighty perches to an old railroad; thence along same south sixty five degrees, west twenty-eight and a half perches, south eighty-three degrees, west one hundred and thirteen perches to edge of dug road; thence north sixty-four degrees, west fifty-three and a half perches to buttonwood in Ranb's mill pond; thence south thirty degrees ten minutes, east one hundred and eighty-six and a half perches, east thirty perches, south thirty degrees and ten minutes, east two hundred and three perches to place of beginning.

After an absence of fifty years from my native town, Hartseph Hollow, I return to tell you of Luzerne, fifty years ago.

Within the present limits there were 23 dwelling houses, 19 of which remain to tell the style of private residences in 1839 and of an earlier date. A few of these remain where they were originally, while the balance of the 19 have been repaired or removed, and only parts remain.

Alighting from the train at "Bennet" there can be noted at once the farm house on the Charles Bennett estate, known in the olden times as the "Isaac Carpenter" house, a man from New Jersey of that name having bought the farm of the Nace heirs. Balser Carpenter lived and died in the house in 1839. Walking some distance on Bennet Street we pass the "Cramer" house, now occupied by Ellen, a daughter of Morris Cramer, who built the house in 1828. That lean to on E. W. Abbott's residence was built by two brothers, John and Jacob Hunter in 1826. The front part of this house was built by Godfrey Bowman in 1811. Two tenants rented the house in 1839, Charles Pierce and Betsy Shafer. This dilapidated structure on the corner of Main and high toned Walnut Street was known in my childhood days as the "Amanda Pettibone" house. The aged fabric has an interesting history, which will appear in a future issue.

The "Peggy Shafer" house, built by Christopher Miner in 1816, stood on the ground where Elizabeth Harris built her residence, and fifty years since became the home and

property of James Mathers, father of John Mathers. The old house was removed on Buckingham Avenue and is now the home of Nancy Walker.

The old homestead on the Hughes estate is at present the home and property of A. M. Hughes, daughter of James and Hannah Hughes, who were the occupants fifty years ago. That house stood there eighty years ago.

This old house blackened with cinnabar dust from the Black Diamond breaker was the home of our early friend, Reuben Holgate. It was built in 1817 or 1818, and occupied fifty years ago by George Houghton.

That low old kitchen connected with the Luzerne House was known as the "James Holgate" house, which was built eighty-three years ago. Susan Hicks lived there in 1839.

The old red mill house looks very natural. It was an old house when we were school boys. It was then the property of Holgate brothers, and built eighty years ago. James Holgate occupied the house in 1839.

Reuben built a storehouse where J. E. Nugent & Co. now have a drug store. Built in 1830. It was moved across Hancock Street about 1837, and is now a part of the Luzerne House, two stories of the front.

The old red mill was built in 1839, for William Hancock, by Charles and John Mathers, two young millwrights. This was the first mill built by them after serving their apprenticeship. Their helpers were John Bartholomew, John Lott, William Haines, James Haines and Solomon Haines. The first miller was Lambert Bonham.

That back kitchen on George W. Engle's rented house is a part of the old "Phillip Waters" house, and built in 1824. George Houghton moved from this house into the Reuben Holgate house, April 1, 1839.

The house of Sarah Laphy was built by her husband, David Laphy, in 1836, who lived here with his family fifty years ago.

The old house opposite the iron bridge was built about the year 1839 by Charles Laphy, who was then one of Hartseph's citizens.

David Atherholt's rented house, between iron bridge and Waddell's shaft, was built by Jonas De Long in 1814, and fifty years ago was the home of Peregrine Jones, known as the "Jonas De Long" house.

Thomas Waddell's rented house, near shaft, was built by Josiah Squires in 1826, whose family resided here fifty years ago. Your humble scribe was born in this forbidding abode in the year 18--.

The Island school house was built between the dates 1818 and 1825. It has been repaired a number of times. O. Haabronck taught the winter term of 1839, and hired for three months at \$15 per month and board, commencing Jan. 10, 1839.

Between the dates 1816 and 1820 a building was erected on the ground where H. N. Schooley's plaster and chopping mill is at present located. This building, and its connections, was used for different purposes in the olden times. Thomas Reese moved a barn across Toby's Oreek and had it for a blacksmith shop. This was then turned into a plaster and chopping mill, also a clover mill. An oil mill was connected with the building. Jacob Hoover had charge of it in 1820. The property was then owned by George Hollenback.

Over fifty years ago George W. Little built the old part of Thomas Wright's mill. It was originally built for a plaster mill. G. W. Little used it for a time as a dwelling house.

About this time a boarding house was erected for the accommodation of the "Louisa Little" furnace hands. It was built by the firm of Gaylord & Smith. William Wallace rents the house to-day.

The part of Raubville Hotel that fronts on Main Street was fifty years ago a storehouse, built by Henderson Gaylord and Draper Smith in 1838.

The front and old part of the residence of Mrs. Caroline Raub was built by George W. Little, and was his home fifty years ago.

Raub's old red mill house was built by Johnny Gore in 1838. Henry Stroh was miller in 1839.

Raub's white mill was built in 1812 by James Hughes, Sr. It has been repaired and repainted a number of times since. George W. Little and Johnny Gore owned the property in 1839.

The town was called Hartseph in honor of Zachariah Hartseph, an old settler, who lived here nearly one hundred years ago. Our grandmothers used to tell us he had a son named Peter Hartseph, who was "one of your handsome men."

The names of the newspapers published in Wilkes-Barre and vicinity in the early history of the town were *The Gleaner*, by Charles Miner, *The Wyoming Herald*, by Steuben Butler, *The Susquehanna Democrat*, by Samuel Maffet, and *The Wyoming Republican*, by Sharp D. Lewis and Miner Blackman.

The tollkeeper at the Wilkes Barre bridge handed the mail to some trusty person who carried it in his wagon to Kingston, some one of the natives walking to Kingston for the mail daily.

Coal was mined from drifts or coal beds. There was the Pettebone coal bed, the Raub coal bed, the Dorrance coal bed, and the Atherton coal bed. The miners used powder in blasting coal fifty years ago, but seventy-five years ago the coal was mined with picks, wedges and striking hammers. The drifts or coal beds worked in these earlier days were known as the

William Evans drift, Pace Brothers drift and Cooper drift, all located between Hartseph Hollow and Blindtown, now Larksville.

The "Village Blacksmith" of fifty years ago was Pierce Bowman, a resident of Pringleville, at present. I met him the other day on his way home from Luzerne Postoffice with his *Herald*, which he peruses with as much interest as he did *The Gleaner* in the days of long ago. He gave me the address of a number of our early acquaintances and neighbors who are living. The list includes John Mathers, Andrew Raub, Hiram Johnson, Mary Ann Hughes, Ann Maria Hughes, Charles Hughes, Margaret S. Hughes, Edward Hughes, James Hughes, Betsey Houghton, William Houghton, Josephine S. Houghton, Sarah Laplay, Martha Raub, Mary Raub, Deborah Raub, Henderson Bonham, Fuller Bonham, Barnes Bonham, Catherine Wagner, James Hancock, Elizabeth Hancock, Catherine Hancock, Ann McCormic, Charles Pierce, Jefferson Pierce, Kate Lane, Ellen Cramer, Priscilla Cramer, Caroline Cramer, Susan Cramer, Elizabeth Stroh, Mary Stroh, Ruth G. Stroh, Peter Stroh, Sallie Stroh, Christiana Stroh, John Fox, Lucinda Reese, Mary Haines.

As I visit these early friends and talk over the old times, I will recall more of the old town and report again. JOHN MATHERS.

#### EARLY LUZERNE JUSTICE.

A Couple of Eulings That Led to Impeachment in 1811.

The *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin* of Feb. 23 contained, in its series of biographical annals of deceased residents of the West Branch Valley, sketches of Dr. John S. Crawford and Judge Thomas Cooper. Dr. Crawford was born in Schuylkill County in 1808, and practiced medicine at Ombra, Luzerne Co., from 1836 to 1849, when he removed to Williamsport. He met his death in 1879 by having his carriage struck by a railway train while he was hastening to an accident case.

Judge Cooper was born in England in 1759, and in 1806 he was appointed president judge of Northumberland, Luzerne and Lycoming Counties. Five years later he was impeached for official misconduct. Here are two of the charges:

Fining and imprisoning a constable in Wilkes-Barre for whispering in court. Fine one dollar, imprisonment one hour.

Passing a sentence of one year on a Wilkes-Barre horse thief, who had confessed his guilt, and the next day increasing the sentence to three years, having discovered that the prisoner was an old offender.

## LUSZERNE BOROUGH.

Continuation of the History of the Town as it was a Half Century Ago—The Changes Since Then.

Here we are, a social crowd, at the home of Hiram Johnson, who, in honor of my return from the "far West," has given a turkey dinner and invited a number of old time friends to the reception. We have fared sumptuously. The apples and cider have also afforded keen enjoyment, just as they did fifty years ago. After dinner the conversation drifted to first things in Hartseph, first persons, first occupations, etc.

The first house was Josiah Squires' old log house, located once upon a time on Toby's Creek, a few rods from Waddell's Shaft. Years ago a young man, an artist, from one of the largest cities in the Keystone State, strayed to the old town and sketched that old log house. The artist is now dead. He left his porte-fenille and perhaps the sketch can be found for some art student who will portray on canvas lively Luzerne as it was with one solitary log house.

The first child born in Hartseph was Elizabeth Bowman, July, 1807; the first preacher was Benjamin Bidlack; the first Sunday school superintendent, James Abbott; the first medical luminary, Eleazer Parker, 1809; the first school house, Island School House, built in 1818; the first teacher, Esther Dean, taught fifteen pupils; the first blacksmith, Johnny Bowman; the first butcher, Johnny Woods, 1826; the first whisky-seller, Adam Shaver; 1814; the first cabinet maker, George Washington Little; the first wagonmaker, Daniel F. Ooolbaugh.

The first political bumper, Bill Hicks, Sr. The number has gradually increased since his time. He was a great Andrew Jackson man.

First undertaker, John W. Little, from Kingston; first miller, James Gray; first shoemaker, Peregrine Jones; first carpenter, Jonas DeLong.

First busybody, Susan Pursell. The number at the present date in the old town is legion.

First tanner, Samuel Thomas; first painter, Rhode Smith; first cooper, Josiah Squires; first miners, William Evans, Henry Beck, Nicholas Beck and Henry Brown; first grave-stone-makers, Joseph Wheeler and Abel Flint.

First news agents, William Barker and John Karkuff. No telegraph wires or messages were needed. The news was freely circulated. To day, Luzerne boasts of more than two news agents.

First tailor, David Laphy. Your correspondent has seen him sitting on his shop

table scores of times, singing as he plied his needle.

The first merchant was Reuben Holgate; first gunsmith, Abel Greenleaf; first comb-maker, George Houghton; first millwright, James Hughes, Sr., also first surveyer.

First milliner, Amanda Pettebone. Her customers did not trouble themselves about as much style as do the fashionable ladies of to-day; first dress maker, Maria Trucks, her practice being limited; first tallorress, Esther Marsh.

First moulders, George Shafer and William Norris; first temperance lecturer, Thomas Hunt—a multitude helps hold up his hands, to day; first grist mill, Little and Gore's; first plaster, oil, clover and chopping mill, George Hollenback's; first drug store, William Tuck's.

The first postmaster was E. Walter Abbott, whose commission is dated May 16, 1836. Here the name Hartseph was changed to the plain name of Mill Hollow, simply because there were four mills in the town. I have often wondered why the good old name "Hartseph" could not have been retained.

The first tin and stove store was run by Martin Fembleton and James Pettebone in 1869; first candy shop, established by Morris Gible in 1840; first oculm bank, Black Diamond; first church, M. E., built in 1874, Rev. Joseph Madison, minister.

At the reception I met a few more of the old residents whose names should have been added to the list, namely, Rachel Segraves, Margaret Segraves, Sallie Segraves, John Sharps Carpenter, Elizabeth Carpenter.

One of the dinner party, whose memory is more retentive than mine, reminded me that Balseer Carpenter died in 1849 instead of 1839 as stated in first communication. Also that the name Josephine S. Houghton should not be included in the list, as the lady was not acting her part then on the world's stage. J. M.

## A Question of Facts.

LUSZERNE BOROUGH, March 6.—EDITOR RECORD: On the first day of March I saw a contribution in the RECORD concerning "Luzerne Borough fifty years ago," written by one called "Humble Scribe." Although somewhat forgetful, he seems to be especially so regarding the old dwelling now occupied by Sarah H. Laphy, as he said it was built in 1838. It was built by David Laphy in the winter of 1838. He and his family—wife and two children—took possession of it April 1, 1834. David Laphy was born in Hartseph Hollow, August 19, 1804. His father's name was David Lafa, as he wrote his name in the old family record. He set tled in Hartseph Hollow several years before the close of the 18th century.

OLD CONTRIBUTOR.

## AN OLD INAUGURATION.

**Experiences of a Wilkes-Barre Man Who went to See William Henry Harrison Inaugurated 48 Years Ago—Gen. Harrison Had Seen the Lost Sister a Hundred Times.**

The RECORD takes pleasure in reprinting a part of the diary of Joseph Slocum, describing his visit to the elder Harrison's inauguration in 1841. It is interesting as showing the methods and cost of travel at that day, as well as for its frequent reference to Wilkes-Barre people. Mr. Slocum was the brother of Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming, whose discovery among the Indians after a captivity of sixty years had occurred only four years prior to the writing of Mr. Slocum's letter. At the time he was 64 years of age. His wife was a daughter of Judge Jesse Fell and their children included the first Mrs. Ziba Bennett, Mrs. General Ross, Mrs. Anning O. Chahoon, Mrs. Lord Butler and Mrs. O. B. Drake. The latter is still living.

Feb. 25, 1841—I started from home, Wilkes Barre, about 3 pm. to go to Washington to see President William H. Harrison's inauguration. In the stage I paid \$3 for my passage to Northumberland. Went to Shickshinny and got supper for 31 cents, then to Bloomsburg, where I had a bite of bread and butter. I paid nothing for it, since when I offered them some money they said it was all paid for. Went to Catawissa and then to Danville. Stopped at Northumberland for breakfast; paid 37½ cents and waited for my stage there. I had my name entered and paid \$3 to Harrisburg. They had to bring out an extra coach. Went on below Selin's Grove; stopped for our dinner and paid 37½ cents. Went as far as the junction of the canal and stopped for our supper; paid 37½ cents apiece. Crossed the Susquehanna on a very large, fine bridge and continued our journey to Harrisburg. We stopped at Mr. Camp's. We got to Harrisburg about 12 o'clock, midnight, went to bed. We were very much tired and fatigued, having been part of two nights and two days on the road without any rest.

Feb. 27.—Saw Steuben Butler's son, who is at school at Carlisle. I saw Mr. Cortright and Mr. Jackson. I was about some in the morning. After the Legislature had met, I went to the House with William Alexander, A. T. McClintock and A. O. Chahoon. I found Mr. Middleworth and gave him the bundle of papers that was sent to him by J. J. Slocum. I sat in the House some time, then went into the Senate Chamber. Heard a quite lengthy speech by Mr. Persons from Mercer County, a strong Whig, in regard to the governor's appointing a

canal commissioner and the money that is squandered by the public officers in improvements. He stated that he would not give a dollar as long as there was so much money squandered by the present officers in power.

His speech was in reply to Mr. Givena, of Lehigh County, a Loco-foco. The debate was quite warm. I stayed until about 12 o'clock. I came down to the tavern and went with William Alexander to see the Cumberland R.R. bridge over the Susquehanna, which is a fine and very permanent piece of work. Came back to the tavern and here I found an old acquaintance who used to be in Luzerne County forty years ago, by the name of Thomas Beard. He and his father were surveyors for the State Commissioners.

Sunday morning, Feb. 28, I got shaved and paid 10 cents, paid 6 cents for having my boots blacked. After dinner Mr. Jackson and I called on H. B. Wright and gave him our views in regard to dividing our county. Returned to the tavern and had our names entered for Little York by stage.

March 1. paid the landlord for seven meals and three nights' lodging, \$3. Paid my stage to Little York, 50 cents. We started at half past seven o'clock and arrived at Little York about twelve o'clock, a distance of about thirty miles. The cars don't start for Baltimore until about three o'clock in the afternoon, so we have time to get our dinner. I paid for a ticket to go on the railroad to Baltimore, \$2.50. Paid for dinner 50 cents. In coming from Harrisburg to Little York we had a very heavy load, fourteen passengers besides the driver. Mr. Penrose was in the stage, Judge Reed and Dr. Somberg and others from Carlisle. We arrived at Baltimore about seven o'clock and paid for a hack to take us to Barnum's Hotel, 12½ cents.

March 2.—I started quite early to go around the city. I found the monument of those who fell in the late war. I saw the building that was pulled down by the mob. I was down to the wharf and then I took breakfast. I paid my bill for two meals and one night's lodging, one dollar and a half. I saw young Zenas Barnum and old David Barnum, and we all hurried to the railroad office to get seats in the cars. There was a very large collection of people. I pressed on through the crowd to get a ticket. I could not get up to the window, so I asked William Alexander to get a ticket for me. About this time there came in a terrible crowd and like to have thrown me down. At this time somebody took my wallet with about twenty dollars, and some memorandum papers. I got a ticket and a seat in the cars. A very large number of people together. Anning O. Chahoon had like to have

lost his pocket book. They cut a hole through, but not quite large enough to get the pocket book. There was one man that lost his pocket book with \$420. I paid for a ticket \$2.50. We got board in Washington, way up town, about a mile from the Capitol, at a woman's house by the name of Mrs. Stores. We paid twenty-five cents apiece for a haok to take us up there. I saw P. Hepburn and Squire Beach. I went all through the Congress House and all about. They are making a platform for the President to stand on when he delivers his inaugural address. We are to pay two dollars a day for our board. Very pleasant weather makes the streets dry and dusty. A great many people are coming in all the time. A great many ladies are in town. In the forenoon I was in the Congress Hall and rotunda, and in the Senate I saw Henry Olay passing through the rotunda. In the afternoon I went in company with three others to Martin Van Buren. We hired a haok to take us out to the White House. We paid three quarters of a dollars. We went in and were introduced to the President. We all shook hands with him, and a number more went in with us, among them three or four young women. We all sat down and stayed some time, and when he rose to go we all shook hands with him again. I told him that he was the first President that I ever saw or that I ever shook hands with. He smiled and we left him. We went all through the house, pretty much every part of it. We examined the furniture, carpets, chandeliers, looking glasses, window curtains, chairs, stools and everything that was in the house that we could find. The yards, gardens, walks, and very large buildings where the offices are, we went through them all. I went to the office of the agent for Indian affairs and inquired about the many tribes of Indians, and the title of the land my sister has on the Misissinneway River in Miami County that the government gave her. They say that it is good and has the best of titles. We viewed all the public property and returned to the tavern very tired. Quite warm day, Main Street very dusty. One company paraded this afternoon. A very fine company, good music. They kept coming in from every quarter.

March 4.—In the morning they fired seventeen cannons. People continued coming in until the city is so full that you can hardly get along the walks for the crowd of men, women and children, blacks and whites. They collected up at the capitol. When I went up it was full all around in the yards, porches and everywhere. After a little the procession came on. The artillery went off on a rise of ground, the volunteers, about three or four companies, came up to

the rise of the right of the capitol, the President and his company upon horseback in the rear of the volunteers; very good music. They opened their columns and the President took off his hat, passed through them, dismounted, went into the capitol and came out on the platform, which was made for that purpose, with some of the Senate, the Court and a number of others. How many and who they were I do not know. After he delivered his address he took the oath and then there was loud hurraing and a great many guns were fired. Then they mounted and marched through the city to the White House. I went on with them until he went into the President's house, then I returned to my lodging to get my dinner.

In the march through the town, the streets and the windows of the houses were all crowded full of men, women and children, they swinging their handkerchiefs and colors and hurraing every few minutes. They think that there were about fifty thousand people from all parts of the country, I believe. There are to be three or four balls this evening. The rockets are flying in the air all about the city, and fireworks of different kinds.

This night there fell a little snow. Quite a change in the air—quite cold.

March 5.—I went to see P. Hepburn. He is to call this evening. I paid to hear a harp and music five cents. I paid for cigars twelve and one-half cents. I paid for letter paper forty cents. I received a letter from Mr. Maxwell. I showed it to A. O. Chahoon. But I shant apply for the postmaster's office.

March 6.—Day very stormy. Morning hail and snow and rain. After breakfast part of our company paid their bills and shifted their quarters more in the center of town, where their business was. William Alexander, John Schyler were the ones. I thought that I would shift my quarters, too, but after considering that I should only stay until to-morrow morning, I thought I might as well stay. Paid eight dollars for four days' board. We think to call on the President. My company all moved to Brown's Tavern. After dinner we made up a carriage load and we went to see the President. Paid fifty cents apiece. I shook hands with him and I told him I was from the Wyoming Valley, where the great massacre by the British and Indians took place; and about my sister being taken prisoner and about its being sixty years before we heard from her, and I told him where we found her. He said that he had seen her a hundred times and we had some conversation together. I shook hands with him and wished him much comfort, and left him and returned to the tavern.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

**Thirty-first Annual Meeting—Election of Officers—The New Building of the Society Talked About.**

The members of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society held their thirty-first annual meeting Monday, Feb. 12, at 11 o'clock. It was one of the best and most largely attended meetings held by the association for many years. The following officers were elected: President, A. T. McClintock, LL. D.; Vice Presidents, Dr. C. F. Ingham, Rev. Henry L. Jones, Captain Calvin Parsons and Hon. Ekley B. Cox; Recording Secretary, S. C. Struthers; Corresponding Secretary, Sheldon Reynolds; Treasurer, A. H. McClintock; Historiographer, George B. Kulp; Librarian, J. Ridgway Wright; Assistant Librarian, G. Mortimer Lewis; Curators—Paleontology, R. D. Lacey, Pittston; Mineralogy and Conchology, Dr. C. F. Ingham; Numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden; Archaeology, Sheldon Reynolds. Board of Trustees, Hon. O. A. Miner, Dr. C. F. Ingham, E. P. Darling, Edward Welles and S. L. Brown.

The society, by a resolution unanimously passed, heard with regret of the continued illness of Judge Dana, and his inability to attend to his accustomed duties as one of the most valuable of the members of the society; he being particularly missed in his position as which he so long and admirably filled. Meteorologist Rev. Dr. Hodge was appointed to temporarily fill the vacancy, he having the necessary government instruments.

Reports were then read. The treasurer, A. H. McClintock, read an interesting history of the finances of the society. While showing an admirable state of progression, it was also gratifying to the members because of the financial stability. The treasurer stated that the life membership fund was now paid up, amounting to \$1,548; that the uncollected balance of this fund will, in all probability, be paid within sixty days, making the total \$4,000; this, together with the assurances of members to be paid, will swell the fund to \$5,000 by the next annual meeting. This is a permanent fund, all the interest being applicable to the expenses of the society. The society is free from debt and the income will be devoted to meet the current expenses.

Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., read a general report of the work of the society, both prospective and retrospective. The reading took

about fifteen minutes and contained words of encouragement. He spoke of the good work that had already been done and the great possibilities lying before. This is a permanent organization, he said; it purposes the elucidation of abstract subjects that continually confront us in the line of science and kindred subjects, and will deal especially with the history of this locality. Its object is also for original research in the natural sciences. He dwelt on the lack of interest in this community in the work of the association, but thought that by encouragement and cooperation a different state would inevitably result. This society should be a chief factor in the educational development of the county. He also stated that there were in the library 4,250 bound volumes, and about 400 unbound, 8,000 pamphlets, and about 2,000 duplicate volumes.

Dr. Ingham also read a report on Mineralogy.

Chester Derr donated to the society a valuable collection of birds of Pennsylvania, embracing over one hundred specimens, all mounted and placed in a glass case. A special vote of thanks was extended to him. A large number of other articles were also donated, for which a vote of thanks was passed.

The plans of the new building were informally discussed. The Osterhout trustees, it is understood, have agreed to erect a two-story building, 30x50 feet, in the rear of the lot, adjoining the library building, for the exclusive use of the society. In this building the valuable collections may be safely placed and a permanent home for the society secured. The building will be erected in the spring and the next annual meeting will be held in the new quarters. The committee appointed at a previous meeting to confer with the Osterhout trustees consists of A. T. McClintock, Dr. C. F. Ingham, Col. C. M. Conyngham and R. D. Lacey. It is understood that light and heat will be furnished the Society free of charge. The members feel highly elated over the proposed munificent gift, and express the opinion that after the establishment in their new quarters, the Society will take a new lease of life and a greater and more lasting interest in the work.

Sheldon Reynolds also referred to the title of the city lot on East Market Street, the material facts being embraced in a communication in another column.

#### The Historical Society Lot.

EDITOR RECORD: As the sale of the Historical Society lot on Washington Street seems to have become a matter of interest to the



public and has called forth adverse criticism owing probably to a misunderstanding of the facts, a brief statement in regard to the transaction may not be out of place. Premising that I do not speak for the society, but only as one who holds views on the subject differing from those already publicly expressed, I beg leave to say: The sale alluded to was made after a careful consideration of the whole subject; the question of the society's title to the lot was submitted to competent counsel who gave it as his opinion that the title was subject to no condition, express or implied, but was in fee absolute, and hence indefeasible so far as the city is concerned. This lot inter alia was conveyed Jan. 23, 1871, by the burgess and town council of the Borough of Wilkes-Barre to the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, and the clause expressing the condition which some people seem to think works a forfeiture of the society's title, is in these words: "It being hereby expressly understood and provided that lot No. 46 hereby conveyed represents the minimum quantity of thirty feet in front on Washington Street, which the said party of the first part were required to set off and convey under the provisions of said Act of Assembly of 5th April, A. D. 1870; and that the conveyance of lots 47, 48 and part of 49 is made upon the express provision and condition that the said party of the second part shall, within two (2) years from the first day of January, A. D. 1871, to wit: On or before the first day of January, 1873, erect upon the premises hereby conveyed a building costing not less than forty thousand dollars, and that upon failure of said party of the second part to erect such building within the time specified, then and in that event this conveyance to be and become absolutely void as to said lots 47, 48 and 49, and the title thereto to revert to the grantors at once thereupon, to be held by them as though this conveyance had never included said lots.

It will be observed that the conditions applying to lots 47, 48 and 49 did not apply to lot 46, the one under consideration, nor is it clear how the Town Council could have attached any condition even if it had wished to do so. Furthermore this conveyance to the Society of lot 46 was not in the nature of a gift, but in pursuance of the requirements of Act of Assembly, 5th April, 1870.

The conditions which made it obligatory on the Historical Society to erect a building costing \$40,000 upon the premises conveyed in order to perfect its title to lots 47, 48 and 49 were never complied with, and these lots did revert to the City in accordance with the terms of the deed, and have long since been sold.

SELDON REYNOLDS.

#### COSTUMES OF A CENTURY AGO.

The Dinner and Supper Served by the Ladies of the First M. E. Church.

The patronage which was bestowed Feb. 23 upon the ladies of the Franklin Street M. E. Church must have abundantly repaid them for their trouble in preparing Washington Birthday spreads. They served both dinner and supper, the principal feature of the former being roast turkey.

The crush in the evening was something astonishing. The commodious parlors were thronged with patrons in such great numbers that the tables had to be set time after time, and this until the supply of eatables became exhausted under an unexpected demand. The tables were waited upon by ladies in powdered hair and costumes of the olden times. Among the assistants were the Derr boys and Rulie Carpenter, who were in Continental suits. The tables were beautified with flowers from Eldridge's, in patriotic designs. Perhaps the oldest gown in the room was worn by Miss Franco Overton. It is a hundred years old and belong to Miss Verlenden, whose grandmother made it. Other noticeable garments were worn by Miss Patterson, Mrs. Will Bowman, Mrs. Russell Brown, Grace Rockafellow, Mrs. O. Walter, the Misses Butler, Sallie Carpenter, May Robertson, Bessie Puckey, Bessie Loomis and May Kulp, besides others whose names were not obtained. The spread was delicious and the patronage was accorded by people from nearly all the churches in town. After the supper there was music in the chapel.

#### Currency of Our Grandfathers.

S. D. Howe, of Franklin Street, is the possessor of a 12½ cent note, or "eleven-penny bit" scrip, issued by the Easton and Wilkes-Barre Turnpike Co., in 1818. The scrip is in size about one by two inches, and was printed in Philadelphia. It was found among the papers of Mr. Howe's deceased wife, whose father, a Mr. Swartwout, was concerned in constructing the Turnpike, which at that time was regarded as a great public improvement when compared with the old Sullivan Road, which up to the time of opening the Pike, was the only available route between this valley and Easton and Philadelphia, our nearest cash market for the surplus produce of all this region of country. The scrip is in a good state of preservation, being only a little yellowed by age after its seclusion of 73 years. It is probably one of the first printed, and was kept as a curiosity no doubt, as it is not signed by the treasurer as intended to be.

**Biographical Notes.**

Under the head of "Biographical Annals—Sketches of deceased residents of the West Branch Valley from the earliest times to the present," the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin* prints these two sketches, which will interest Wilkes-Barre people:

**HON. B. S. BENTLEY.**

Hon. Benjamin S. Bentley was born in the village of Cairo, Greene County, New York, in 1808. He was educated in Hamilton, New York, when he settled at Montrose, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, and studied law with Hon. William H. Jessup, and was admitted to the bar in 1839. He practiced at Montrose until 1866, when he came to Williamsport in October of that year and located in a new field. When Lycoming County was made a judicial district he was appointed president judge, March 17, 1868, being the first judge of the Twenty-ninth District. He served in this position until January, 1899, when he was succeeded by Hon. James Gamble. When Lackawanna County was erected he was appointed president judge and served from August, 1878, to January, 1890, when he returned to Williamsport and again entered on the practice of law. Judge Bentley died Nov. 6, 1892, in the 74th year of his age, and was buried in Wildwood Cemetery, Williamsport. He was twice married. His second wife survives him. Judge Bentley, during his long and active professional career at the bar, attained to a high position as a lawyer, and was greatly esteemed and respected.

**GEORGE BENNET.**

George Bennet was born at Forty Fort, Luzerne County, in the historic vale of Wyoming, Dec. 25, 1818. He was a grandson of Thomas and a son of Andrew Bennet, who figured so conspicuously in the thrilling revolutionary history of the Wyoming Valley, and whose names are held in veneration by the present inhabitants of that bloody soil. Mr. Bennet moved to the West Branch Valley in 1840, and purchased a farm a short distance east of the borough of Montoursville where he followed farming until the close of his life. Feb. 1, 1844, he was married to Martha, daughter of the late Daniel and Mary Strebeigh, of Montoursville, from which union has proceeded three sons and two daughters. His son, Daniel S. Bennet, died in September, 1884, in Wilkes-Barre, where he had settled and married, and had won much distinction. From the shock occasioned by the unexpected news of the death of his son the father never completely recovered.

Mr. Bennet died of heart disease March 11, 1887, aged 72 years, 2 months and 15 days. He was the last male of his family of his generation, his surviving sons, John A. and George, remaining the only living representatives of this distinguished line of Pennsylvania.

**AFTER TWENTY YEARS.**

**Dr. Hodge's Parishioners and Friends Give Him a Reception and Make Him Some Presents.**

The reception to Dr. Hodge February 22, was one of the pleasantest affairs imaginable. The day marked the twentieth anniversary of Dr. Hodge's ministry in Wilkes-Barre and hundreds of his congregation, besides many of his friends from other churches, assembled to pay their respects. The platform and alcove were generously decorated with potted plants. At the right of the platform sat an orchestra of six pieces, under Mr. Pokorney's direction, and they played at intervals charming music.

All the chairs and tables had been removed and the crowd surged in and out of the large room for upwards of two hours. With Dr. Hodge stood a committee of ladies who assisted in receiving in the north alcove. These were Mrs. Dr. Urquhart, Mrs. Koerner, Mrs. R. J. Flick, Miss Hodge, Mrs. A. J. Davis, Mrs. Manville, Miss Lee, Mrs. J. V. Darling, Mrs. Loop and Miss Harvey. The pastor was attended also by the elders of the church, by his assistant, Rev. Charles I. Junkin, and by Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, who has been preaching in Wyoming Valley for half a century. The guests were introduced by Messrs. Lidson Flick, O. H. Hall, J. W. Raeder, H. W. Dunning, W. W. Lance, Dr. H. N. Young, W. B. Dow, H. C. Davis and C. W. Bixby.

The galleries were used for dressing rooms, and many guests sat there and watched those below. Light refreshments were served by a number of young ladies.

One of the pleasantest features of the evening's enjoyment was the surprise which awaited Dr. Hodge upon his return home. The ladies had swooped down upon the house, not with malice aforethought, but with set purpose. The library was done over, and they made several handsome and substantial additions to the library furniture, hung a number of beautiful portieres, and left a tea service of silver in the dining room. Dr. Hodge was also presented with a purse of over \$200.

Dr. Hodge will doubtless recall the evening as one of the pleasantest of his long residence among the people of Wilkes-Barre.

## MRS. PLUMB'S RECOLLECTIONS.

Some Interesting Points on Life in Hanover Township in the Early Part of the Century.

## II.

[The following is a continuation of the recollections of Mrs. Julia Anna Blackman Plumb, now living in Hanover, at the age of 82, as written down by her son, H. B. Plumb.]

The first preacher I remember was called Paddock, and I think he was a Methodist. He preached at Rufus Bennett's house in the evening, and mother went to hear him, and I was only a little bit of a girl, about 1809, she took me along. I and Pattie Minerva Bennett at first sat on chairs or benches, but so many people came and it got so crowded we had to give up our seats to grown people. There was a small room by the end of the larger one and there was a bed in it and a fire and we were crowded in there, and in there Select Bennett had "a beau," and as we did not like to stand there looking at them crawled under the bed. People came all the way from Nanticoke at Col. Washington Lee's to this meeting, more than four miles. They came so far, and at night, too, because meetings were so scarce. Ann Jameson, a little girl like me, and her parents, Squire Samuel Jameson and Mrs. Jameson, were there, also from Nanticoke, and she sat in their laps. I think the lady that Phillip Weeks afterwards married was there. She was some relative to Col. Lee's wife, and lived there, I believe, and I think her name was Campbell. I think that was before the school house was built in the end of Hog-Back, near Rufus Bennett's. This was before I had gone to any school, and I must have been about four or less. I don't think there was any cleared land by the side of ours then. Bennett's house was near the Middle Road, and ours near the Back Road, about a half mile apart. I heard mother say that when she first moved here, in 1791, from Wilkes-Barre, the trees were standing so near the house that if any of them had fallen or been blown down towards the house they would have fallen on it. But that was in 1791, and this meeting was about 1809 or '10, and our land was more cleared up then. I think Perry Gilmore lived in the stone house on the Middle Road then and kept a tavern there. He used to borrow father's neck kerchief to wear when he went to Wilkes-Barre. Father sent sister Betsy—she was six years older than I—there once after his necktie or handkerchief, when he did not return it, and she took me along. Gilmore had it on his neck when we went there, and he was mad because father had sent for it. He was an Irishman and his wife was a Dutch woman. In the same little hollow where Rufus Bennett's house stood, there stood at

that time two or three houses some twenty or thirty rods further on up towards John Hoover's, and a man by the name of Covert lived in one and a man by the name of Paul Thorp lived in another, but I don't remember who lived in the third. I think they stood pretty near together and all belonged to Bennett.

Covert had a son 10 or 12 years old that was sick or crazy, and they thought he was bewitched. He was lying in bed down stairs, and every once in a while he would start up, open his eyes and stare towards the ceiling or joists above, and point with his finger from place to place and cry out *There she is! There she is!* Covert got a heavy club and one time when the boy pointed his finger and cried *There she is*, he struck a whack up against the floor and joists above as hard as he could at the place the boy pointed to, and an old woman sitting there in the room on a low chair, helping them during child's sickness and then knitting, had not seen him prepare to strike screamed and jumped and fell on the floor. So they thought sure she must be the witch, and that the club hit her up against the upper floor and made her scream and fall out of her chair.

I heard mother tell of a little matter that happened while she was a girl, living at her mother's, on the River Road, near the Red Tavern. A man that lived down the river—about a mile from her house, towards Nanticoke, was heard one night before bedtime yelling and swearing in a loud voice for a good while. They knew the voice, and all the family went out of doors to hear the racket. The next morning they saw him going by their house towards Wilkes-Barre, and they asked him what the noise was down his way last night. He said he was crossing the river in his boat from Shawney, and the water was very high and the night very dark and rainy, and he got lost, and couldn't find the shore, and so he went to cursing and swearing as hard as he could and he got ashore at last. If he hadn't sworn as hard as he did he should never have been able, he said, to manage his boat and he should have been "drowned," but he swore so hard that he got ashore at last and saved himself.

When I was a very little girl and used to go to Wilkes-Barre with my mother and father, the first house along the Middle Road after passing Askam's Corner—where L. L. Nyhart lives now—was the stone house. Perry Gilmore lived in it. The next was Willis Hyde's, where Richard Metoalf now lives, across the creek from the stone house. Opposite Metoalf's a private road or lane turns off from the main road to the right and runs around a hill close by the main road, and back of that hill, some twenty or thirty rods from

the Middle Road, is the Rufus Bennet house, and fifteen or twenty rods or further beyond Bennett's dwelling were some more houses, all built before I was born. Bennett's house and the others where they stood could not be seen from the Middle Road. On the left of the lane as you entered it, and opposite to the Willis Hyde or Metcalf house, there was built, many years afterwards—after the time I was such a little girl—a house close by the road. Rufus Bennett, Jr., built it, but it was never finished, and no one ever lived in it. They used to have preaching in it sometimes, but it was soon taken down, and Rufus went West. But when I was the very little girl, the next house along the road was James Wright's, near Lorenzo Ruggles', but I learned afterwards that there were houses between, only they were back from the road and out of sight pretty much. There was Henry Hoover's house back somewhere to the right, and Edward Edgerton's back to the left; and then still nearer, this side of Edgerton's, near where Hoover afterwards took out coal on the left, was where Aunty Warner lived. It was in the hollow southwest of the present Hoover Hill school house, some forty rods or so Aunty Warner was a hired girl at the Slocum's in Wilkes-Barre when the Indians in the fall of 1778 carried off Frances Slocum. Aunty Warner ran off to the fort with one of the Slocum children in her arms, while the Indians took up a little boy, and the mother, showing the Indian he was lame, the Indian put him down and took up the little girl and carried her off. Aunty Warner had lived at what is now called Sugar Notch, near the creek that crosses the back road there. But she lived over here near the Middle Road when I was a little girl, and died here, I think about 1820, when I was about 14 years old. She lived with Johnny Burgees. Johnny Burgees was a boy whose parents were very poor, and Aunty Warner didn't have any children, and so she took him when a little child and brought him up. Johnny got married, and when Aunty Warner's husband died and Aunty was getting old and feeble, Johnny thought so much of her that he took her to his own house and kept her till she died there, or rather, perhaps, he returned her kindness in kind, which is about the same thing as thinking much of her. This was his house back in this hollow. I don't remember Aunty Warner's name before she was married. I used to visit her with mother. I think the next house to James Wright's was Lorenzo Ruggles', across the creek from Wright's.

There was a house, some years afterwards moved from some place beyond Ruggles and put on a lot just under what is now called Hoover Hill, where the school house now

stands. That was an old house when it was moved there, and Nathan Bennett lived in it afterwards. It was not there in my earliest recollection of the houses along this road here, for I went to school by these houses a year or so after my first recollections. Henry Hoover's house on the hill across the road from the school house was not then built, nor Mrs. Whipple's, behind the school house, or nearly behind it. Jacob Worthing built a house somewhere near Lorenzo Ruggles' house, and he had a loom that threw the shuttle itself. I was a little girl, and went in there with Lavina Ruggles to see it, and I put my foot on the treadle, and as it went down it drove the shuttle across to the other side, and then I put my foot on the other treadle and it threw it the other way. I think Jacob Worthing himself was on the loom and told me to do it, and when the shuttle went across he drew up the lay and so showed me how it worked. Lavina Ruggles was a little younger than I. She was Ruggles' oldest child, and died while she was a little girl, with the measles, I think. Jacob Worthing's wife was a daughter of Comfort Cary. Worthing's wife died young, and then he broke up housekeeping. They had only one child, a boy, a baby then. It was named Comfort Cary Worthing. The child grew up to manhood, and afterwards taught school at the Lutsey settlement, and used to stop here at our house sometimes. That loom wasn't used much afterwards, I think. It was thought it didn't make the cloth as good as the old way.

There was a house near where Ruggles' home was afterwards built, where an old man called "Blind Davis" lived. He was blind and his wife was deaf. He sold out and went to Ohio to live, blind as he was. I must have been six or seven years old then. Ruggles must have built his house about that time, I think. Benjamin Cary's house was next, on the right a little ways from the road, but I don't know much about it. He was a brother of James Wright's wife. Mr. Cary owned the land, and I heard Mrs. Cary say they had to pay three times for it. Her name was Mercy Abbott. Jacob Fisher's house was next on the left. The old house where Jacob Fisher's father lived, was still standing and was back of the new one quite a number of rods, and there was a road to it, I think, along the top of the hill from the school house on the cross road below Fisher's. The next house was on the corner of the cross road that goes over to Sugar Notch and a Mr. Barrier lived there as long ago as I can remember. He had a son, a young man then, called Thomas, that I hear is alive yet. Now the rest of them from

there to Wilkes-Barre I can't remember about, when I was so little. It seems all mixed up. I do remember though two old men that used to walk up and down the road on the side of the hill at what was then or afterwards Christian Nagle's house, where there was a water spout and a trough for horses and cattle to drink at.

My brother, Harry Blackman, married and staid here, but Ebenezer went to Ohio, when he came of age (1814). Then when brother Huribut (Blackman) came of age he got sick, and could not work. He used to ride a horse to Wilkes-Barre every once in a while to see the doctor. After about a year of illness he concluded to go West and see if he wouldn't get better (1816). He came back some years afterward on horse-back on a visit, and tied his horse and came in and asked if he could stay to dinner and have his horse fed. We didn't know him, but mother went up to him and asked him if he wasn't some of our folks. He laughed and said he was, and then she knew him. There was no canal then, and I don't know how he went West, but he told us that when he had been on the boat a few days he could eat pork and beans as well as any of them. He went to Troy, Miami Co., Ohio, where Brother Ebenezer was. When he went back, Sister Betsy went with him (1820), intending to stay only a year and then come home again, but when she was ready to come, Huribut got sick and she didn't come. Then she staid and got married. Then Brother Elisha became of age, and he went West, also to Ohio (1822). They all learned trades there, and staid in Troy, except Elisha, who got married and went to Indiana. They all married. They are all dead now. The country there in these early times was unhealthy, but they all lived to be about seventy years each, except Ebenezer. They each of them came back on a visit to father before he died. Ebenezer and his family came in 1899, and went back in 1840. Huribut, Betsy and Elisha came together in 1841, and went back after a few weeks. Elisha was executor of father's estate, and came here in 1846 to to settle that up. Father died Dec. 5, 1845.

Within my recollection people wore clothes generally of cloth made at home. It was raised, spun, woven and dyed at home. This was for the common wear, but people generally had a suit "for nice" that was made of boughten stuff. When I was a little girl father bought me a calico dress at 25 cents a yard. He thought it was so cheap he got it. But at the first washing it all faded out, and we dyed it over at home. Calico that was good for anything was 30 cents a yard. I don't think anybody around here wore buckskin except that old colored woman that lived over the mountain. She

was called "Shots," I think. She was the mother of the colored man called "Black Joe," and his wife was called "Blue Sal." I don't know but his name was Joseph Taylor. Old Shots was an old woman when I was young, and lived in Wright or Slocum Township, as it was afterwards called, and used to come over the mountain to our side on the Warrior Path, dressed half in man's and half in woman's clothes. She lived with a man, or he lived with her, that was old and lived on a pension he got for service in the Revolutionary War. I don't remember what his name was,\* but they lived in what we called the swamp, or in that neighborhood, according to my recollection. She used to dress partly in buckskin. The poor things had been slaves, and then they were set free and had to take care of themselves the best way they could, and they didn't know how.

\*His name was Bussel.

#### CAST SEVENTY DEMOCRATIC VOTES.

Worked at an Industry Long Ago Abandoned in Wilkes-Barre.

Isaac Smith, commonly called Hatter Smith, died at his residence at Smith's Ferry, above Falls, March 1, 1869. Mr. Smith was born at Newbury, Tompkins County, N. Y., March 20, 1798, and at the age of 16 was bound out to learn the hatter's trade. At 21 he came to Wilkes-Barre in connection with his trade and remained here two years. From thence he removed Exeter. While there he married Polly, daughter of Samuel Headly, and by her there were born to them ten children, of whom nine survive him. After leaving Exeter his wife and family took up their home at Smith's Ferry, near Falls, where they spent the remaining part of their years. Mr. Smith survived his first wife many years and for his second wife he married Maria Armstrong, who now survives him. Mr. Smith carried on in connection with his trade the ferry. He cast 70 Democratic votes. He had the honor of being father, grandfather, great grandfather and great-great-grandfather. The total number of his descendants are 120.—*Wilkes-Barre Telegram*.

#### Another Petrified Tree.

J. O. Haddock has recently obtained from his Black Diamond mine a fossil that will attract great attention in his New York office, where it is to be sent. It is a petrified tree stump. The body is three feet in diameter and at the roots it measures four feet across. These figures indicate that it is even larger than the petrified stump which for many years has occupied a place in the corridor of the Wilkes-Barre court house.

### JUDGE THOMAS COOPER.

**His Ideas of Justice Were Too Much for the Lawyers of the Early Part of the Century and He Was Impeached**

The following interesting biography from the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin* is one of its sketches of deceased residents of the West Branch Valley from the earliest to the present.

Judge Cooper, a distinguished Englishman, was born in London, Oct. 23, 1759. He was educated at Oxford and became proficient in chemistry, and acquired an extensive knowledge of law and medicine. He was driven out of England on account of the very active part he took in favor of the French Revolution of 1789, which brought him in conflict with Edmund Burke, who threatened him with prosecution. He fled to America and joined his friend, Dr. Priestly, at Northumberland, in 1794, who had preceded him a few years. Soon after his arrival here he entered on the practice of the law in the courts then presided over by Judge Rush.

He also became a Jeffersonian politician, and attacking Adams in a newspaper communication, which he published in the *Pennsylvania Reading Weekly Advertiser* of Oct. 26, 1790, was tried for a libel under the seditious law in 1800, and sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of \$400.

The Democratic party coming into power, Gov. McKean, in 1803, appointed Cooper president judge of the Common Pleas District, composed of the counties of Northumberland, Luzerne and Lycoming.

Judge Cooper held his first court at Sunbury in April 1806, and at once began to introduce changes which he supposed necessary to maintain proper silence in and add dignity to the court, as the courts previously held there by Judge Rush, had, through his easy and gentle nature, been too noisy and disorderly. The lawyers, suitors and spectators, however, did not like this new move, and it gradually, both there and at Wilkes-Barre, laid the foundation for the complaints that in 1811 led to his impeachment before the State Legislature for official misconduct. And in March, 1811, he was brought before a special committee of the State Senate, then sitting at Lancaster, to answer certain charges of complaint, ten in number, with a view to his removal from office. E. Greenough, Esq., of Sunbury, appeared as the attorney of the complainants, and Thomas Duncan, Esq., of Carlisle, appeared as counsel for Judge Cooper. The charges against him were as follows:

1, Fining and imprisoning Constable Hollister in 1807, at Wilkes Barre, for

whispering in court, the fine being \$3 and imprisonment for one hour.

2, Fining and imprisoning John Hannah, an Irishman, of Northumberland, at his first court in Sunbury in 1808, for wearing his hat in open court.

Cooper admitted the truth of these complaints, but maintained that said fines and imprisonments were necessary to secure proper silence and decorum in the court house. He further said that a court house deserved as much respect as a church or a school house did, and that if Hannah had claimed himself to be a Quaker, or to have any conscientious scruples about pulling off his hat in a court house, he would not have fined or imprisoned him, but that he had made no such claims and so deserved no extra favors.

3, Passing sentence of one year's imprisonment, at Wilkes-Barre, on one Gough, a young horse thief who had confessed his guilt, and on the next day, on hearing of his being an old offender, calling him up before the court and passing a second sentence on him, increasing his imprisonment from one to three years.

Cooper admitted this to be true, but maintained that during the session of the court he had the right and power to alter sentences or judgment so as to correct his own mistakes and do what justice required; as, otherwise, lawyers and parties would at times be put to unnecessary trouble, expense and delay to have such errors corrected by means of a writ of error or the like.

4, Deciding important points in a case in which he had a pecuniary interest.

Cooper denied this in a long statement of facts.

5, Setting aside the verdict of the jury in an intemperate and passionate manner in the case of Albright vs. Cowden.

Cooper denied his having done this in the manner alleged.

6, Browbeating counsel and witnesses.

Cooper denied this charge also, and said that he had done nothing more in reprimanding counsel than was necessary for making statements that were unsupported by evidence, and for persisting in objections to matters after the court had decided them and allowed the right of filing exceptions to his opinions; which were necessary to make the counsel and witnesses preserve silence, order and decorum in the court house.

7, Appearing armed with deadly weapons at the court house in Williamsport.

Cooper said that he had done it but once, and then only because some man had threatened him with personal violence.

8, Refusing to hear parties speak in their own defense.

Cooper denied this in toto, and there was not the slightest evidence of any such refusal by him.

9. Allowing horse racing to go on at Sunbury after he had issued a proclamation against it.

Cooper said that said racing was allowed to prevent the various losses that would otherwise have befallen the tavern keepers, who had made much preparation for entertaining the horse racing visitors, and it was only allowed on the condition that there should be no gambling or rioting at said races, and no such horse racing in the county thereafter.

10. Fining and imprisoning Constable Conner for neglecting to execute a warrant put into his hands for the arrest of Jacob Lange, a counterfeiter, of (now) Union County, until Lange made his escape, said warrant being unconstitutional and contrary to the laws of Pennsylvania.

Cooper replied that when said warrant was issued he considered it constitutional and lawful, and also right to have it promptly executed.

A large number of witnesses, both against him and for him, were examined before the committee, and then, as we learn from John Binna's *Republican Argus*, a paper published at Northumberland, Judge Cooper spoke four and a half hours, in a very eloquent and impressive manner, in his own defense. And, after hearing the speeches of Messrs. Greenough and Dunoon, the Committee of Senate entered upon the consideration of the whole matter and made the following report to the Legislature:

Your committee for the premises are of the opinion that the official conduct of President Judge Cooper has been arbitrary, unjust and precipitate, contrary to sound policy and dangerous to the pure administration of justice. They, therefore, submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft an address to the Governor for the removal of Thomas Cooper, Esq., from the office of President Judge of the Courts in the Eighth Judicial District of Pennsylvania.

He was therefore removed by Gov. Snyder in 1811, and Seth Chapman appointed in his place. There was great rejoicing at Northumberland over the action of the Legislature and a cannon was fired by the people.

Judge Cooper again returned to his practice at the bar, but he was soon afterwards appointed professor of chemistry in Dickinson College, Carlisle, and subsequently, in 1816, held a professorship of mineralogy and chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania; and shortly after, in 1819, became, at first, professor of chemistry, then, in 1820, president of the

South Carolina College. He also discharged the duties of professor of chemistry and political economy. Retiring from this post on account of age in 1834, he was employed by the Legislature of South Carolina in revising the statutes of the State. He died May 11, 1840, at the age of 81.

#### MRS. DEBBY AYARS DEAD.

Three Sons and Three Daughters Left to Mourn.

After an illness of about a year, from a lingering disease, Mrs. Debby Ayars passed peacefully away March 20, about 8 o'clock am. Deceased was born in Upper Providence Township, Delaware Co., her maiden name being Evans. She married Addis M. Ayars, who died shortly after the family came to Wilkes-Barre, some 20 years ago. Six children mourn the loss of a devoted mother—Mrs. James P. Taylor, wife of the editor of the *Montrose Republican*; Charles E. Ayars, with Thompson Derr & Brother's insurance agency; David F. Ayars, cashier of the Miners' Savings Bank; Shepherd Ayars, teller in the same institution; Nettie, wife of Harry Stoddart, and Miss Lizzie Ayars. Mrs. B. F. Oheever, of West Chester, now here, is a sister, and Mrs. Pratt Bishop, of Media, is a half sister. Mrs. Ayars was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and had a very large circle of friends.

#### Death of Mrs. Shiber.

Jane, wife of Charles Shiber, died at her home in this city on Sunday, March 10, after a protracted illness. She was born in England in 1822 and came to this country when a girl. She was identified with the Episcopal Church and was a loving mother and a good neighbor. She is survived by her husband and five children—Annie, widow of Wm. H. Tennant; Matilda, wife of Wm. Fry; Alfred J., Charles C. and George W. Shiber. There are also brothers and sisters in Schuylkill County, in New Jersey and in Salt Lake City. Funeral Wednesday at 2 from the residence, 108 North Washington Street.

#### A Former Wilkes-Barrean Dead.

Treat B. Camp, formerly of this city, at one time engaged in the insurance business here, died in San Francisco recently. During the war he belonged to the 52d Penna. Vols., and was during his time of service captain of Co. D. His body was cared for after death by the Geo. H. Thomas Post, 2, Dept. of California, G. A. B., and was buried with military honors in the Golden City. Capt. Camp had many friends in Wilkes-Barre and his military record was a very honorable one.

**An Old Physician Dead.**

Dr. Charles Wagner, for many years a medical practitioner in Wilkes-Barre, died in Hanover, Germany, on Thursday, March 7. at 2 am. The news came by cable to his brother, Dr. F. Wagner, of this city, who states that deceased had long been a victim of valvular disease of the heart. The result of the autopsy was also cabled here, the cause of death having been found to be a narrowing of one of the heart valves, or technically mitral stenosis, ending finally in apoplexy. Deceased was born in Germany in 1823, and was educated at the famous University of Göttingen, where he took his medical degree in 1847. He served in the Hanoverian army as surgeon during the Schleswig-Holstein war, and was also a surgeon in the Crimean war. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1860, and acquired a large practice between that time and 1874, in which latter year he retired from active professional life. He was one of the original members of the Luzerne County Medical Society in 1831. From the time of his retirement, 1874, until his death he divided his time between America and his native land. He left here for the last time Jan. 1, 1898, since which time he had enjoyed excellent health, and he was preparing for a return to Wilkes-Barre. In fact he and a sister had engaged passage on a steamship and were expecting to reach Wilkes-Barre in April. Deceased leaves no issue, but is survived by his brother in Wilkes-Barre and by a brother and two sisters in Germany. He leaves considerable personal property. A cablegram says he was buried Monday afternoon.

**The Late Dr. Wagner.**

**WILKES-BARRE, March 11, 1898.**—**EDITOR RECORD:** You announce the death in Germany of Dr. Charles Wagner, formerly of Wilkes-Barre.

Twenty-five years ago the doctor was one of our leading physicians and surgeons, kind, charitable, and a very willing worker among the injured in the mines, when many had no home or help but that provided by the hand of kindness and charity.

There was no Wilkes Barre Hospital then, and it is a pleasant memory of the past to acknowledge his gratuitous professional kindness toward the suffering poor and needy, supplemented by the substantial necessities of basket and store, furnished freely by those ladies who were then renowned for their constant charitable considerations among the needy sick and wounded. Among the foremost of whom were Mrs. Nancy Drake, Mrs. Mary Lane, Mrs. Ziba Bennett, Mrs. Rutter, Mrs. Jesse Thomas, Mrs. Fuller and others. G. V.

**Died In Iowa.**

The *What Cheer (Iowa) Patriot* reports the death on March 1, of a former Luzerne County man. The account is highly eulogistic and gives these facts:

M. Prescott was born in Huntington, Luzerne County, Pa., Dec. 11, 1826, and lived there until he was in his 30th year. He then moved to Polo, Ill., where he lived till 1831 when he moved to Lanark, Ill. Here he was married to Mary Jane Powell on Jan. 11, 1838. Their union was blessed with four sons, E. M., superintendent of the What Cheer Coal Co.; Wm., who is engaged in photography in Rockford, Ill.; Ohas, E., who is editor of the *Turner Democrat*, Turner, Ill.; and Bert, who is attending high school at What Cheer. In 1869 Mr. Prescott united with the M. E. Church and remained a faithful member until his death. They removed to What Cheer in May, 1864, when he went into the employ of the What Cheer Coal Co.

**Note from Dilton Yarrington.**

Some months ago the *Record* received the following note from Dilton Yarrington, of Carbondale, but the same did not get into print. It is well worth printing even now. Mr. Yarrington is a native of Wilkes-Barre, and is quite hearty at the age of 86. He and his good wife have been spared to live in marriage bonds for the unusual period of 61 years:

**EDITOR RECORD:** In your paper of November 23, I noticed an item relative to Dr. Howell, who said he was down in Northampton County last week attending the 95th birthday of his grandfather, who is hale and hearty and his mind as clear as ever; "that he voted for Harrison in 1840, and also voted at six previous Presidential elections, casting his first vote for John Q. Adams in 1816."

Now I don't deny that he might have voted at the Presidential election in 1816, but if his first vote for President was given to Adams, he did not vote at all till 1824. Mr. Adams was not a candidate till 1824. In 1816 James Monroe (Democrat), and Rufus King (Federal), were the only candidates running or voted for; therefore it seems very plain that Doctor Howell's grandfather did not vote in 1816, but that his first vote was given for Adams in 1824, making only four votes that he gave previous to 1840 for President, and this is my case precisely. I became a voter by "age" just one month before the election of 1824, and at that election there were four candidates—Wm. H. Crawford, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams. Mr. Adams was elected by the House of Representatives, there being no election by the people, no one of the candidates having



a majority over the other three. My vote at that election was given for Jackson. I voted for him again in 1828 and again in 1832. I don't suppose are now many living that voted three times for Jackson for President. That finished up my Democracy, and since I have always supported the Whig or Republican party. You will thus see that Dr. Howell's grandfather voted but seventeen times for President, as well as myself.

DILTON YARINGTON.

#### His Father Disappeared.

Charles Haines, of Plymouth, an old-time citizen of a part of Wilkes Barre Township, formerly Plains, now Parsons Borough, was admitted to the City Hospital March 18 for treatment. He is suffering from a cancer on the lower lip that developed about a year ago. The patient is a son of Samuel Haines, who disappeared so mysteriously over fifty years ago and has never been heard from, from the evening when he left Ziba Bennett's store to return to his home, just beyond Calvin Parsons' residence. It was thought at the time that he was murdered by a colored man named Isaac Duncan, who lived at the Junction house, just beyond the L. V. R.R., on the Laurel Run Road. It is said that Hannah, Isaac's wife, just before she died, confessed that her husband killed Haines while on his way home and afterwards sunk the body in the river near the canal aqueduct, at the mouth of Mill Creek.

#### CURIOUS OLD HYMN BOOK.

One of the Few Copies That Remained After the Edition was Destroyed by the Shakers.

Geo. W. Gustin, the artist, hands the Record a curious old volume which he may possibly present to the Historical Society, certainly a fitting place for it. It was published by the Shakers three quarters of a century ago, and it is a literary curiosity. It was so much of a literary and theological curiosity at the time of publication that the Shakers called it in and destroyed every copy that could be procured.

The title page: "Millennial Praises, containing a collection of gospel hymns adapted to the day of Christ's second appearing, composed for the use of his people. Hancock; Printed by Josiah Talcott, Junior, 1818."

The preface states that the hymns were composed by "Believers of different places, and which have met the general approbation of the Ministry and Elders of the Church." The preface states that "some of the hymns contain lively expressions of faith," and they are lively indeed. The author of the preface evidently did not think they were

adapted to permanent use, for he says "they must be limited to the period of their usefulness, for no gift or order of God can be binding on Believers for a longer term of time than it can be profitable to their travel in the gospel."

Many of the hymns are pervaded by an air of real piety and sincere devotion, while some are mere essays in rhyme. Some of the stanzas would not look well in a newspaper and it is no wonder that the Shakers promptly put the seal of their disapproval upon it. Here is one of the hymns, showing that *shaking* was not a modern thing, but as old as God's religion:

#### THE SHAKERS.

When the Lord in ancient days,  
Set Mount Sinai in a blaze,  
O, the trumpet's awful sound!  
How it shook the solid ground!

When the burning flames appear'd,  
Guilty rebels shook and fear'd;  
Now we see a hotter blaze,  
Kindled in these latter days.

Now the flame begins to run,  
Now the shaking is begun,  
He that gave creation birth,  
Shakes the heavens and the earth.

The' the wicket stand and moek,  
They shall not escape the shock;  
All the world will have to say,  
Shaking is no foolish play.

Shaking here and shaking there,  
People shaking every where,  
Since I have my sins confess'd,  
I can shake among the rest.

We'll be shaken to and fro,  
Till we let old Adam go;  
When our souls are born again,  
We unshaken shall remain.

Some will boldly try to stand,  
But the Lord will shake the land;  
Sinners who shall dare rebel,  
Will be shaken into hell.

New Novel by Caleb E. Wright.

FRANCES SLOCUM AND SIDNEY LEAR. 12 mo. pp. 200. Robert Baur & Son, 1889.

The many friends of Hon. Caleb E. Wright will be pleased to learn that a volume from his pen has just issued from the press of Messrs. Robert Baur & Son, of this city.

The readers of Mr. Wright's other works of fiction are well acquainted with the happy gift he exercises in interweaving with the plots of his romances the events of the history of his native valley, and in investing the familiar features of its landscape with the charm of his imagery and poetic delineation. In the present volume the author's love of nature finds expression in many bits of description of the rural scene; and the whole prospect stretching away from Bald Mountain to Nanticoke becomes, under his sympathetic touch, clad with the joyous-

ness of a day in June. Pleased with these happy surroundings, the reader is ready to welcome with cordial interest the several characters as they present themselves in the gradual unfolding of the plot.

The volume embraces two poems. The one entitled "Sidney Lear," is a story connected with the incidents of an early period with varying scenes in both the old and the new world. It recounts the adventures and fortunes of a Scotch soldier, who having served in the cause of the Pretender, is forced to flee from his native country, and finds a retreat in the Wyoming Valley at a place where

"The lake-born Connawaset, white with foam  
And filling all the dreamy wild with din,  
Washes, in headlong race, the foot of brown  
Culloden Brae."

A short time thereafter his daughter, Sidney, the heroine of the tale, after long searching for her father, is borne by chance to his cot; but the years that have intervened since his flight from his former home and the change of name he had been compelled to adopt, prevent a recognition between them; and the daughter does not learn their true relations until after her father has been arrested, charged with high treason and carried back to Scotland.

One must read the book to satisfy one's interest in the rapid movement of the plot that follows this incident. After many vicissitudes the family is again united and happy in their "Egle's Eyrie" on Culloden Brae, and all goes well. The limits of this notice will permit of only a few quotations from the book. Sitting at table with his daughter the hardy soldier gives thanks:

"Great Giver  
O' a' guid," his grace began; "large as our needs  
The measure o' thy gifts. Tak' our poor thanks,  
The best that poverty affords, an' wi'  
Thy blessing crown the board."

In reference to the Pretender's attempted invasion of England he says:

"Thence, crown'd with martial fame,  
Crossing the border to the pibroch's strain,  
To tread the soil of Britain, Then Falkirk!  
And, alas! fatal Culloden Moor."

The island of Ouba receives this poetic tribute:

"All-wondrous land! Born of the sun and  
Nurtur'd by the sea. How beauty wraps her  
Robes about the Sylvan Isles! Spice-laden  
Winds, proud of their burden, curl through the  
Waving orange groves."

For the admirers of the dog creation we give a final extract:

"How much a  
Dog may know or glean from human speech has  
Not by zoologic doctors been found out.  
But Jock drank at the wordy tide, with wild,  
Enthusiastic glee."

The other poem contained in the book is entitled "Frances Slocum," and tells the sad

story of the captivity of the child who a few months after the Massacre of Wyoming was carried away from her father's house by a roving band of Delaware Indians. The incidents of her life among the Indians, the long search for the lost sister, and the circumstances that led her family to find her many years afterward when she had become the queen of the Miami Indians, narrated with dramatic effect in very pleasing verse, goes to make a story of sustained interest, and one that will doubtless find many readers.

The book is printed on heavy plate paper, and its typographical appearance reflects credit upon the publishers. It will make its appearance in about 10 days.

#### SIXTY YEARS AGO.

Recollections of Some of the Noted Wilkes-Barre Men who Paid Taxes in 1826, as Noted by Caleb E. Wright, Esq.

To aid in the research of the Falls, I lately received from the relatives of the late James P. Dennis, the assessment list of Wilkes-Barre, made out by his father, Jacob J. Dennis. Being without date I ascribe it to a period between 1826 and 1830. It returns Judge Hollenback as still living and Jacob Oist as dead. Stephen Butler and Jacob Sinton are named by the assessor as collectors.

It was both a surprise and pleasure to look over this list of taxpayers, so many of whom it was my privilege personally to know. Here were judges, ministers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, merchants and citizens by the score; even Michael Kinsley (as Jacob spelled it), assessed with his store house on the bank, before Morgan's tavern. This was the assiduous German's castle; and from its portal, with clock-like regularity, he passed to the accomplishment of his daily round of multifarious duties. Excepting Judge Hollenback, he was the most widely known man of the town.

In boyhood I attended the ministrations of the four clergymen on this assessment list. They belonged to three different denominations. Joel Rogers was a Baptist. Mr. Gildersleeve a Presbyterian. Marmaduke Pearce and George Lane Methodists. The two last named, as it appears, land owners.

Mr. Pearce, a man of large size, was a syncretical expounder of ecclesiastic doctrines. His sermons were short but able. On the other hand Mr. Lane was a Boanerges in exhortation. His appeals were imbued with signal power. Of Mr. Gildersleeve I have spoken heretofore; and of Mr. Rogers, my knowledge is more limited than in the other cases.

This assessment list chronicles two physicians. Dr. Covell I remember as a tall, slim man, with his elbows nearly touching on his back as he stood. He was highly educated, and for a long time the reigning functionary of his profession. He had the field almost to himself.

Dr. T. W. Miner was of a later date. A brilliant luminary he was. His early life, especially the years of his minority, were passed in Doylestown. His affability, his wit, his cheerful manner, are not forgotten here. He had a fellow medical student by the name of Price. They were the life and joy of all company into which they happened to pass. In all the surrounding country where their peregrinations led, their appearance was hailed with delight. On one tramp in the country, young Miner came to a hotel alone. "Well, landlord," was his salutation on entering, "here I am, without money and without Price."

Two luminaries of the Supreme Bench, and on the list returned by Mr. Dennis, commenced their judicial careers in Luzerne. These were Thomas Burnside, subsequently president judge of the Centre County district, then for a time judge of Bucks and Montgomery, and then promoted to a seat on the Supreme Bench. He was genial as he was learned in the law; and no one was more ready to speak of his facial properties than himself. There have been many men more handsome.

The fame of John Bannister Gibson is widespread. His intellectual superiority recognized. In my view, he had always a face resembling that of the lion. It inspired awe and respect.

The administration of David Scott was long continued. His appearance on the bench was highly dignified. His charges to the jury I keep in mind as models for imitation. His delivery was slow, emphatic, precise; and what he said understood without difficulty. I call to mind no judge who elicited more admiration from me than David Scott.

But the lawyers on Jacob's list! As I look over their names, I am reminded of scenes in the old court house, sixty years ago. But this communication has no room for mention of them. O. E. WRIGHT.

DOYLESTOWN, Jan. 24, 1889.

#### LUZERNE BOROUGH 50 YEARS AGO.

##### Third Historical Contribution of Old Residents and Old Landmarks.

Time has flown rapidly and pleasantly since my last contribution, and while for three weeks I visited with old friends residing outside of Luzerne and out of the valley, my time has been taken up in *talk*ing of old times so much that scribbling has been out

of the question. I attended the golden wedding, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of John Sharps Carpenter and Elizabeth Schooley Carpenter, at their pleasant home in West Pittston, Feb. 19, 1889. I next went to the Quaker City. While there I called on our friend Mary Haines, now the widow Irons. She informed me that her oldest daughter, Mary Jane, now Mrs. Gaylord Jud Mathers, is residing in Luzerne. Also visited Jane Mathers, now the widow Haines, who was a young lady in Luzerne fifty years ago. Her address is Yardleyville, or Newtown, Bucks County, Penn'a. Returning I visited Peter Stroh, who owns a large farm located two miles from Tunkhannock, Wyoming County. He is pleasantly located and a well-to-do farmer. All apple-loving friends would do well to give him a call, as he has the best varieties. He married Elizabeth Dickover, who is still living, and her hospitality I shall gratefully remember. Five sons are living. Peter Stroh's sister Sallie is now Mrs. Daniel Nangle, of Beloit, Rock County, Wis. His sister, Christiana, is Mrs. John Fox, of Brainard, Butler County, Nebraska. His half sister, Elizabeth, is Mrs. Barnes Bonham, of Forty Fort. Mary Stroh is Mrs. Robert Barber, of Stewartville, Warren County, N. J. Ruth Gore Stroh is Mrs. Charles Bryant, of Forty Fort. I returned to Luzerne by way of the city of Dallas, and called on Andrew Ranb, who is suffering from a paralytic stroke. He was 69 years old February 12, 1889. He married Catherine Pierce, who is living. Four sons are also living.

Called on Sallie Segraves, of Huntville, who is now the widow Waters. She has two sons living. Here I met her sister Margaret, now the widow Pettebone, of Trucksville. Her husband, E. G. Pettebone, died in 1897. She has four sons and three daughters living. Arriving at Luzerne, I was permitted to shake hands with my old school mate, James Hancock, of Plains. He expressed great pleasure in being permitted to see an old acquaintance. His sister, Elizabeth, is Mrs. Fuller Reynolds, of Plymouth. His sister, Catherine, is the widow Blair, of Lewisburg.

At the dinner table a lady friend, daughter of an old acquaintance, reminded me of a promise to relate the history of an old building which she passes on her way to the Sarah Bennett grammar school, saying that she was required to furnish a historical sketch for next Friday afternoon.

The ancient name of the old building was the "Amanda Pettebone" house. A more modern name was the "Shebang;" and I gleaned from another source that its most modern name is "that piece of antique decoration." Location, the corner of Main

and Walnut Streets. It was built eighty-five years ago on the farm of Oliver Pettebone, Sr. His farm extended from the Susquehanna River to the top of the mountain. His son Oliver lived in the house, which was located when first built where Ryman Street is now opened in incorporated Luzerne. Oliver Pettebone, Jr., was a brother of Noah and Joshua Pettebone, now both dead. He was an uncle of Noah Pettebone, now a resident of Dorranceston. These good, old fashioned names are retained in the Pettebone family. Amanda Pettebone was the wife of Oliver Pettebone, Jr., and at one time taught a private school in her own house. At a Sunday school celebration, while addressing the audience, the late Rev. John Dorrance remarked that he was one of Amanda's pupils. After the death of her first husband, Amanda married Freeman Thomas in 1848. The marriage ceremony was performed at the home of Mrs. Jane Haines, who rented the house where E. Walter Abbott now lives.

Freeman Thomas opened the Grand Tunnel at Plymouth, moved from thence to West Branch, Pa., where Amanda died a few years ago. Frank Daly bought her house, and moved the materials to the edge of the woods, just below the old Pettebone drift on the hill, and resided there two or three years, having married Elizabeth Cramer. In 1850 the frame was again unpinned, moved, and became the property of Morris Cramer, who was the father-in-law of Frank Daly. Abel Greenleaf bought the remains and built a blacksmith shop. He also practiced gunsmithing here, and repaired watches and clocks. When E. Walter Abbott, in 1862 or 1863, purchased the estate of Abel Greenleaf, this place became his property. When he became the Mill Hollow Postmaster, in 1868, this old ornament was his postoffice. He ran a one-horse grocery in connection. George F. McGuire rented the house for a grocery in the earlier history of the town. George Sanders, alias "Prof. Sanderino," also used it as a paint shop. Israel D. Willis once rented it for a shoemaker's shop. The Misses Bisher, of Trucksville, once rented the dwelling for a dressmaking establishment. John Palmer once rented it for a dwelling house. While residing there his son Joseph was born. Abraham Knarr also resided here. While he was tenant Fanny Davis, now Mrs. Daniel Gallagher, half sister of Mrs. A. Knarr, was born in 1868.

Michael Lapha and his first wife once kept house here. His brother, George Lapha, was also a tenant of the old building. Samuel Henry Reese rented it in 1871.

William Simonson also rented the house. It was for one term used as a school room, with Ellen S. Hughes teacher, who with her

half sister, Jane S. Houghton, boarded her brothers here while engaged in the mercantile business in Mill Hollow in David Atherholt's storehouse, now J. E. Nugent & Co.'s drug store. Michael Sullivan once rented here. J. E. Lanpbear rented it for a dwelling house and afterward for a place in which to place his cobbler's bench. One Sunday, as the Methodist congregation was returning from church, while Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lanpbear resided here, some one discovered that the roof was on fire. "Get a ladder," said one, "and let us try to save the building." "Throw on water," said another, "and do not let the building burn over the heads of the sleeping occupants." "Let it burn," cried a third. At that critical point the man of the house appeared at the front door with a newspaper in hand to inquire the cause of such a breeze around his house at noonday. On receiving the desired information, he hastily set to work to extinguish the flames with a cold water bath. Thus the old house was saved to ornament Walnut Street. On examination of the old building to-day, I found that the roof and second floor contain seven stove-pipe holes. Any person in search of a house to rent will see at a glance how convenient it will be to set up a stove in any corner of the lower rooms. A brick chimney also towers aloft from the humble habitation. There are six window frames, one or two pieces of sash and six whole panes of glass. The doors have walked off, also. The floor boards are loosened and will follow suit. After Walnut Street was opened, the building and a small strip of land became the property of Eliza Harris, her agent having purchased it for her of E. Walter Abbott for \$400, in the year 187-. Having related a brief account of its past history, I will leave the recital of its present history to another.

#### LUZERNE BOROUGH 50 YEARS AGO.

[Continued.]

LUZERNE, April 4, 1889.—Having spent the last three weeks in my native town, Hartsoph, now lively Luzerne, I have improved the opportunity of calling on a number of old friends who knew the town fifty years ago. I have met others who have resided here less than fifty years, yet I write of them from the fact that they are numbered among the old people of Luzerne. Pierce Bowman lives just outside the borough limits, at present, but was born in Hartsoph, Oct. 24, 1810, in an old weather-beaten, wood-colored house that stood on the ground where John Atherholt's house now stands. It was a one story and a half house, built in 1809 by Johnny Bowman,

father of Pierce, and occupied by his family fifty years ago, he having died here in 1838, June 4. In 1808 Johnny Bowman built a blacksmith shop near his house, or not far from the old red mill house. In 1829 the shop was rebuilt. This old blacksmith shop contained a trip-hammer, and as the foreman of the establishment was an early riser, the trip-hammer served the purpose of the reveille, for its music could be heard for some distance, announcing the dawn of each new day and cheating the natives out of their last morning nap. The second story of this blacksmith shop was rented by George Houghton for a comb factory. It was afterwards used as a dwelling house. After William Hancock purchased the property the old shop was turned into a clover mill. The building was torn down after 1871. The "Johnny Bowman" house was torn down in 1861.

Lucretia Bowman, mother of Pierce, died in Illinois in 1862.

Pierce Bowman has a remarkably retentive memory and always had a weakness for cider, that with a snap in it preferred. When Hartsoph had no temperance houses the men who occasionally indulged in a glass of sweet cider walked to Kingston and made their purchases at the old Reynolds store. One day when Pierce was a young man, about 32, he became very thirsty, trudged to Kingston, and just as the clerk was about to hand him his cider his father put in an appearance and forbade the sale. Pierce was greatly enraged, and, determined not to be outdone, took the stage that was passing, went to Tunkhannock, a distance of twenty-six miles, made the desired purchase and returned in the stage, informing his cautious father that he found some cider. At another time he was sent to the same store for half a gallon of molasses and one quart of cider, and through a mistake (?) called for two quarts of cider and one quart of molasses.

John Mathers was born near the toll gate on the turnpike leading to Dallas, in the second house after leaving Raub's mill, Nov. 1, 1818. His father was foreman in a paper mill, once located near the toll gate. He was always noted for being good at a game of checkers. Mr. Mathers bought his property and built in 1841, and has resided in the same house since. He has three sons and four daughters living. Two daughters are married. Samantha is now Mrs. J. O. Jackson, of Dallas, and Martha Louisa is now Mrs. G. A. Boughtin, of Kingston. His white house on the hill bids fair to become a home for retired bachelor gentlemen and maiden ladies.

Miss A. M. Hughes was born in Hartsoph, in the house in which she resides, May 9,

1828. Miss Hughes expects to live to see the year 1900. She has an excellent appetite, a consideration greatly in her favor. Her house is well supplied with newspapers, books, pictures and bric-a-brac, so much so that when I called to-day I was afraid to move for fear of displacing some ornament. She contemplates building a Queen Anne cottage as soon as Walnut Street is opened through the Hughes estate.

Asa L. Bishop was born in Masonville, Ulster County, N. Y., May 1, 1815; spent his boyhood days in Olive, Delaware County, N. Y., came to Pennsylvania when 25 years of age, settled at "Cherry View," or Bennett's Hill farm, in 1800. He is now a resident of Luzerne, and his home is on Bennett Street. He is very feeble, his health having been poor all winter. He has been a practical farmer, enjoys gardening, the cultivation of fruit, etc. His neighbors glean many useful hints on farming when he relates his experience. He has four sons and two daughters. Two of his sons are married.

For a time we will leave the old folks who seem disposed to take exceptions because we tell *when they were born*, and turn to the old buildings, that never criticise, and by request write more of some of the domains that remain and of some that have passed away.

Waddell's rented house, near the shaft, stands exactly north and south, east and west. It was built by a sun-dial, and during the longest days of the year the sun shines down the chimney in the dinner pot. The lower part of the large chimney in this house is built nine feet square and encloses three fire places, one of which contained a grate where the cooking was done. Charles Mathers, brother of John, bought this house and the farm on which it is erected in 1840, and resided there until 1875, when he moved to Wyoming, where he died in 1880, Sept. 18. His well kept and well cultivated fields are now nearly covered with Waddell's oulm dump. His wife, Surrender Raub Mathers, died in Luzerne, in the fall of 1838, Oct. 14. Six sons are living.

It is supposed that Atherholt's old red mill house is the oldest house in town. A great many different families have resided there.

By way of the correction of a blunder made in my first contribution it should be said that James Segraves resided in this house fifty years ago.

An old log house, sided, colored red, located near where Thomas Kline's rented house now stands, near iron bridge, was known as the "Adam Shafer" house. The freshest that occurred July 18, 1850, swept

this old house away. The occupants escaped. Abraham Knarr, Sr., who died in 1884, lived in this house when the high water of 1860 carried this old landmark down Toby's Creek.

Adam Shafer sold the first whisky that was ever sold in Hartseph, while he resided here. He acted as farmer at one time, cultivating the part of the land that was then cleared, now owned by John Mathers. He also had charge of Hollenback's plaster, clover and oil mill. Henry Frace lived in this old log hut fifty years ago.

If I am not spirited away by ghosts from these departed houses and by the old residents who refuse to have their ages published, I will tell you more, some future time, of old houses and of old people who are still living and who were Hartseph's residents fifty years ago.

#### THE LATE WALTER G. STERLING.

##### The Funeral Services—Additional Facts of His Life.

The funeral services of Walter G. Sterling were held Tuesday, April 16th, at the residence on South River Street. The funeral was private. Selections from the scriptures, were read by Revs. H. L. Jones and H. E. Hayden, of the Episcopal Church. A quartet composed of Mrs. Brundage, Miss Brundage and Messrs. Darling and Woodward sang several selections. About twenty-five of the most intimate business associates and friends of deceased accompanied the remains to Hollenback Cemetery. The casket was borne by four colored men.

Some additional facts of the life of deceased have been gleaned since his death. He was born at Black Walnut, near Meshoppen, Nov. 24, 1821. His parents were Daniel and Rachel Sterling. Major Daniel Sterling will be recalled as one of the most energetic business men of his day, his enterprises covering an extended territory up and down the Susquehanna. About 1835 young Sterling came to Wilkes-Barre with his father, where he entered the office of George M. Hollenback and became the trusted and confidential clerk of that extensive business man, attending to his exacting interests with marked success. During the gold excitement in the West he was one of the '49-ers who went to California in search of their

fortunes, he being a passenger around Cape Horn in the Grey Eagle. He remained there two years, and at the expiration of which time he returned to this city and in connection with Mr. Hollenback established a private bank, he in the meantime having control of Mr. Hollenback's business interests. He was soon persuaded to sever his connection with that institution and assisted in organizing the Second National Bank and became its vice president. He afterwards aided in the organization of the Peoples' Bank and was chosen its vice president. His own business became so extensive that he relinquished his official position and attended to his private affairs. This kind of life did not run according to his tastes, and he soon entered the Miners' Savings Bank. Here he remained until the sickness which had been undermining his health for nine years completely prostrated him. Until this time he was secretary and treasurer of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co. He, in connection with S. L. Thurlow, erected Music Hall, at the time of its construction the finest building in this city. He was associated with every progressive movement that claimed the attention of the citizens of Wilkes-Barre, when it received its first industrial impetus. Every laudable movement, every favored enterprise found him in the ranks of its supporters. He was a brilliant business man and until his sickness was recognized as having no superior in accounts or finances. Of his strict integrity and uprightness in business it would be superfluous to make extended mention. His death tends to revert the mind more thoughtfully over his life's history, and it is evident that he has pronounced his own eulogy, not in words but in his daily acts. During the three years of his illness he never spoke an impatient word.

Mr. Sterling is survived by a widow, who was Miss Emma Elder, and six children. Miss Minnie Sterling is the only child by the first marriage. J. C. Sterling, of Philadelphia, is the only surviving brother. Deceased was a brother of the late D. T. Sterling, of Meshoppen; the late H. G. Sterling, of Philadelphia; Mrs. James P. Whaling, Miss Julia Sterling, Mrs. D. McDonald, of Milwaukee, Wis., and Mrs. Charles Wallace, of Denver, Col. He was an uncle of Cashier A. A. Sterling, of the People's Bank. Mrs. Northup, of Sioux City, who at one time resided in this city, is a half-sister. The late Prof. John Whelan Sterling, LL. D., of the University of Wisconsin, was a brother.

# The Historical Record

VOL. III.

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NO. 2

## THE WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.

Scenes in and About the Town—Display of Colors—Services in Various Churches The Events of Day and Evening.

The weather of Tuesday, April 30, was a welcome change from that of the half dozen days preceding. The air was clear and cool, and hundreds attended the various exercises in commemoration of that great event in America's political history, the inauguration of George Washington. Along the principal streets there floated from mastsheads the National flag. The colors hung from many porches, and were conspicuous in the windows of many private residences. Most of the business houses were closed during the afternoon, and people were out in great numbers enjoying the holiday, while the spirit of American patriotism was kindled anew.

### EXERCISES AT ST. STEPHEN'S.

A great throng assembled in St. Stephen's at 9 in the morning, the hour on Inauguration Day at which President Washington attended divine service a hundred years ago. The congregation was augmented by the attendance at the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge making the address. Many other congregations were also represented by pastors and people.

The music was by a union choir, led by Prof. Alexander, Prof. Oruttenden's organ accompaniment being reinforced by a large orchestra of the leading musicians of town. The volume of both vocal and instrumental was full and strong and heartily entered into by the congregation.

The opening hymn was grand "Old Hundredth." A peculiar and impressive effect was imparted by having choir and orchestra come to a dead pause at the end of each line, after the manner of the old fashion lining. Nothing was wanting except to have one of the clergymen read the lines.

The worshippers were provided with service slips and all joined in the responses with enthusiasm. The proper psalms for the day were the 85th and 122d. The lessons were the 8th chapter of Deuteronomy and the 8th chapter of St John. The prayers were for the President of the U. S., for the country, for a blessing on the families of the land, and for the unity of the Church of God. The closing hymn was "Rise, crowned with light, imperial Salem rise."

Rev. Mr. Jones spoke briefly. He related how a traveler in Nicaragua in 1857 saw a portrait of the first President of the United States, and was told it was "Saint George" Washington. The rector alluded to his unbending integrity and his pure Christian discipleship. He said that Episcopalians were proud that Washington was of their communion, but he was not narrow minded and bigoted. He was catholic in the full sense of the word, as was shown by his action at Morristown, N. J., where he received the Holy Communion with a Presbyterian congregation.

Rev. Dr. Hodge delivered the address and it was replete with facts of history and practical comments thereon. He had no manuscript other than a few quotations and began by saying that we are living in an era of centennial celebrations. For 15 years we have been warming our hearts with the fires of patriotism which our fathers kindled a century ago. It is well, amid the bustle of the present, when the past is often forgotten, to tread the paths our grandfathers trod. We are now celebrating the last crowning act of this drama of 100 years ago. It turns our attention.

First, to the event itself. It was a pivotal event. Upon it turned the history of this nation, yea, the destiny of the world, and upon it still towers the mighty sweep of our destiny. All else in our struggle with the mother country had been preparatory. This was the real beginning. Our dangers did not cease when the war ended. The crisis was but begun. The period from the surrender of Cornwallis to Washington's inauguration was a crisis. Disintegration began. Selfishness asserted itself. Opposing forces drew men apart. The centripetal and the centrifugal forces were not in harmony. Some leaders wanted monarchy. Some asserted State rights. There was no unity, no common thought. As Finke has said, that period was fraught with more tremendous alternatives of future welfare or misery for mankind than it is easy for the imagination to grasp. Washington in his letter to the governors of the several States wrote: "This is the time of your political probation. This is the moment when the eyes of the whole world are turned upon you. This is the moment to establish or ruin the national character forever. For according to the system of government the States shall adopt at this moment, they will stand or fall; and by

their confirmation or lapse it is yet to be decided whether the revolution must ultimately be considered as a blessing or a curse—a blessing or a curse, not to the present age alone, for with our fate will the destiny of unborn millions be involved."

There were "Articles of Confederation," but they proved a "rope of sand." One of the wisest of that day said: "Congress can declare war, but cannot wage it; they can make peace, but cannot enforce it; they can borrow money, but cannot pay it; and they can coerce a State provided the State agrees." Congress became an object of indifference if not of positive contempt. No quorum could regularly be had. They could make no commercial treaties. Money became scarce. Discontent became common. The people were fast disregarding all government. Anarchy was growing daily and foreigners were already laughing at the failure of democracy.

It was under these circumstances that the Federal Convention was called in Philadelphia in 1787, and the battle was fought within its closed doors. Washington presided and he succeeded in binding the men together in a common cause. He said: "It is too probable that no plan we propose will be adopted. Perhaps another dreadful conflict is to be sustained. If, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterward defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which wise and the honest can repair. Event is in the hand of God."

The result was the constitution—and under which we have lived and grown great through these 100 years, and of which Mr. Gladstone has said it was "the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and the purpose of man."

Even then the dangers had not passed. There was doubt if the constitution would be adopted, so great was the jealousy of men and States, and the conflict of opinions. It was not until nine States had confirmed the work of the convention and Congress had named the day for the election of electors, and these had named Washington as their unanimous choice, and he had been inducted into office, that the Union was secure. It was a day of espousal of the 13 colonies to the man they loved.

Secondly, we meet to-day in a vast cathedral—a cathedral of a hundred years, and the day serves to turn our eyes to the man. The other celebrations turned to principles, to events to men, many men. Yet there is one colossal figure that towers above them all. It is for the grand combination in him that we pronounce him great. In his combination of character he stands above his fellows. In the past century other great men have come and gone. Like near-by planets which outshine the distant suns, they

have dazzled for a time by their brilliancy, but Washington is greater than they. It is their nearness that makes them brilliant. There is no one name amid the heroes of the past that gathers so much of praise in so many lands as that of Washington.

Third, this event turns our attention to and emphasizes God in the event, and God in the man. God brought the event and the man together. When he took his oath of office 100 years ago the people shouted "Long live Washington," and the echo has never died away. We catch it up to day and shout it with glad acclaim. Washington will live long in the memory of his countrymen as an example, as an inspiration to his countrymen. We do well to emphasize the relations of God with this event. Washington recognized God at Valley Forge in the darkest days of the Revolution and in his inauguration and in his farewell address. We, after the lapse of a century, enjoy the fruitage of those years. We recognize as God's gift our magnificent domain, our position among the nations of the world, our free institutions, our liberty and our growing prosperity, and dedicate all to him.

The services concluded with the singing of the hymn, "God bless our native land," and the benediction.

#### MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN.

A fine audience assembled in Memorial Presbyterian Church at 9 o'clock. Special music was rendered by a choir of about 20 voices from the Young People's Choral Society, under the leadership of G. S. Rippard. The hymns sung were patriotic selections appropriate to the occasion. "America" rolled out in splendid volume, and another hymn was the one beginning:

Great God of nations, now to Thee  
Our hymn of gratitude we raise.

Rev. Caspar B. Gregory gave an address, and gave a number of characteristics of our government for which we should be thankful. It is elastic, yet firm. The speaker traced the wonderful advance of the country under the Constitution in moral and religious sentiment, and in wealth and resources. All these things have come under the favor of God. "As Washington invoked aid from heaven for his future guidance, so must we look to that Higher Power for our future weal."

#### THE HEBREW TEMPLE.

The services at the synagogue on South Washington Street were very interesting. The chief feature was the address by Rev. Dr. Rundbaken, the pastor. He said:

The centennial anniversary of Washington's first inauguration as President of the United States is also the centennial of the first day of the actually constituted American



Republic. It is the birthday of freedom which we celebrate to-day, as also the remembrance of the hero who battled for this boon is sacred and dear to us. A hundred years ago freedom was proclaimed to all the inhabitants of the land, and all the oppressed and down-trodden were invited to avail themselves of the blessings of liberty. After the lapse of a century glorious results had been arrived at, and countless and multifarious blessings had flown out of the cornucopia of our Federal Constitution for our happy and prosperous Nation. What the heroes of a great past who have fought and lived and died for the principle of freedom had sown with tears and their heart's blood, we, the happy descendants, are permitted to reap with song and rejoicing. Truly, here in this country the idea of liberty and equality, as conceived by the religious genius of Israel in olden times, had been applied in practice for the benefit of humanity. This cannot be said of any other Nation upon the face of the earth. It is true, the French people had proclaimed a Republic in May 8, 1789, but so far, up to this day, they have deplorably failed in their efforts to come up to the standard of true republican emancipation. Evidently the Gallic race lacks the aptitude, the firmness and clear-headedness requisite to realize republican institutions in political life. It seems that among all modern nations the Anglo-Saxons alone assimilate and uphold liberal and humanitarian ideals of government. The English speaking race of modern times has it as a peculiar gift not only to grasp at high principles which are calculated to benefit human welfare, socially, politically, religiously and intellectually, but also to hold fast to these high principles, to maintain them and to solidify them with wonderful tenacity into reality. And so it is explainable why the law of freedom, already in times of yore proclaimed by Israel, has in modern times found its interpreters, its advocates and its champions in the fathers of our blessed country. When Israel was delivered from Egyptian bondage it proclaimed freedom to all. In Israel's divine constitution, in the revealed book, it was laid down: "One law shall be to him that is home born and to the stranger that sojourneth in your midst." And this fundamental law, the mainstay of any free government, the fathers of our Republic have adopted from Israel's book, thus securing civil and religious liberties to all the inhabitants of the land.

Above all these wise men of our nation's past, rises in grandeur as well as in charming simplicity, crowned with the halo of a dying glory, George Washington, the liberator and model citizen. The tribute of the day is devoted to his memory! The most

magnificent chorus of sixty millions join this day with might and main in praising God and blessing the memory of the man whose name is immortal in the recollection of men. As long as our Republic will last the name of Washington will live and shine—to speak with Daniel, "like the brilliance of the expanse, like the stars, forever and ever." Washington had been compared to the old Roman Consul, Cincinnatus, who was regarded as the model of antique virtues and simple manners. I think, however, that he stands far higher in the estimation of humanity. He was greater, nobler, more exalted than the old Roman Consul. Cincinnatus was a *Roman*, and he loved exclusively the *Romans*. Washington was an *American*, and he loved *Mankind*. Besides being a liberator, warrior and citizen, he was also the ideal man, imbued with strong and pure religious convictions. He was human and humane. I would not hesitate to compare him to Moses, the man of the Lord. Moses was the first liberator, Washington was the second. They both brought freedom to men, and bequeathed this boon as an inalienable right to posterity. And, as Moses had planted the germs of perpetual bloom, regeneration and progressiveness in the spirit of Israel, even so had Washington infused in our Republic an all-enduring and lasting vitality which facilitates our nation's growth, strength, unity and progressiveness.

The doctor then concluded his address with expressions of thanks to God for the past and present, and admonished his people to revere the memory of the fathers of the country who have proclaimed the jubilee to all oppressed and handed down to us a Constitution which declares that every man is free, without distinction of creed and race, and entitled to all rights to be enjoyed by the children of God's creation.

#### GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Pursuant to the instruction of the cardinal, commemorative services were held in the Catholic Churches of the city yesterday morning at 9 o'clock. At the German Catholic Church solemn high mass was celebrated by Father Nagle. At the conclusion of the mass he explained why these memorial services are held, and the importance of the day; how that Washington became the father of this country. Father Nagle said we have good reason to be thankful for the great blessings which have been vouchsafed to us. Religion is the foundation of all good government. Revolution is always preceded by a downfall of faith. The throne and the altar should stand side by side. The choir sang "Te

Deum Landamus" and also sung during the mass.

#### AT ST. MARY'S

Commemorative services were also held at St. Mary's Church in the morning. High mass was celebrated by Father Moffat. He spoke a few words on the import of the Centennial Day and the historical recollections associated with it. The choir sung during mass, and the sweet melody resounded through the church as the climax was reached.

#### FIRST BAPTIST.

A good audience assembled in the First Baptist Church at the centennial service. There was no special music, but several patriotic hymns were sung and Dr. Frear delivered a short address appropriate to the day.

#### THE MEETING IN KINGSTON.

There was a fine attendance at the union service in Kingston, at Nelson Memorial Chapel. Rev. J. G. Eekman delivered an historical address, giving a resume of the history and development of the country.

Rev. F. von Krug, spoke of the discovery of America and the reason why the Puritans came here—to seek religious liberty. The country prospered from the example and influence of such sturdy stock.

Dr. Sprague said that Mr. von Krug had spoken of some things that he himself had intended to mention. He then went on to speak of the educational tendencies of the early New England settlers; the establishment of schools and colleges. The North far outstrips the South in this. The American nation is destined to become the most powerful and most enlightened on the globe; and by situation is called to Christianize China and Japan. Hon. E. B. Payne dwelt upon the life and character of Washington and the Constitution of the United States. He attributed the marvelous prosperity of the country to the fact that it dwells in the fear of God. We are in danger from the influx of foreigners, who do not come here with the same laudable motives as the early settlers. They come here, some of them, for gain. They boast of personal liberty and do not respect our Sabbath. They rebel against the Constitution and encourage anarchist principles. Mr. Payne's effort was most interesting. Rev. Mr. Van Schoick referred to the little hatchet story, and said there was another tree to cut—the tree of intemperance, and it was to be done with the hatchet of votes.

There was considerable patriotism manifested. Many private residences threw out the National colors.

#### Recollections of the Luzerne Bar.

##### HON. LUTHER KIDDER.

In estimating character, one generation does not apply to it the same standard as another, yet all honor the man who is happily distinguished for sincerity, constancy and liberality; especially him who has passed through high offices of responsibility, who has not treated an individual with injustice; although he cannot be seen by the eye of posterity, is justly entitled to be regarded with respect as a man.

Judge Kidder's attorneyship at the Luzerne Bar was contemporary with Judges Woodward and Conyngham, a half century since.

In a measure an idea of the contrast between then and now may be obtained by remembering Wilkes-Barre with a population of about two thousand, and Luzerne County without gas, railroads, telegraphs or telephones, and with one judge learned in the law presiding over her courts.

Posterity concedes to Judge Kidder the reputation of having performed his judicial duties with fidelity and ability, and his example teaches the lesson, that to ensure true respect and happiness, a man must eschew the lures and enticements of pleasure and ambition, and address himself earnestly to the service of uprightness, justice and truth.

His speech was thoughtful and his judicial manner, somewhat measured, was conducted with the gravity becoming one of the sages of the law.

His acute and vigorous understanding, with an unwearied industry, made him a man of most respectable acquirements, and admirably adapted him for the scenes through which he was to pass.

He had good natural endowments, a manly and unaffected position in life, a reputation for uncorrupted justice, indefatigable diligence, a diffusion of charity, and like Jeeup, Woodward and Conyngham, left to posterity an eminent example, in whom the virtues that make a good man were conspicuous, without the blemish of any vice.

He was not distinguished from his contemporaries by the nature or extent of the particular equitable doctrines which he held. His great merit lay in the method which he pursued in attempting to show that equity was not either dependent on the individual caprice or opinion of the judge, or that its administration had anything arbitrary in it.

His judicial admonitions were rendered so pointedly as not to be misunderstood by attendants upon the court. In social life he paid deference to etiquette, was polished in manner, and was instructive and humane in his nature as a companion and friend.

His judgments were clear and remarkably free from the verbosity and tortuosity of pretentious men. He was also above all suspicion of corruption or partiality, and having a mind well imbued with the principles of our municipal law he disposed satisfactorily of the routine business of his court or of any important question which arose before him.

He had no desire for frivolous occupation, and his leisure from professional pursuits was allotted to intellectual enjoyment.

He was untouched by the tooth of calumny, and no statement could be propagated to his disadvantage that would wear the face of probability.

To an accurate knowledge of the law, he united a tenacious memory, and moreover a reputation that was never defaced by petty artifices of practice or ignoble methods.

His language at the bar was pertinent and correct, seldom characterized by cultivated effusions of rhetoric for effect, as his object always seemed to be to produce conviction rather than to obtain applause. His views were luminous and comprehensive, his manner dignified and imposing, his mind perspicuous, his perception quick, and his diligence unremitting.

He was courteous, yet a formality of manner in him protected a dignified presence from familiarity.

His capacity and learning entitled him to high reputation, yet he was habitually cautious, and he peremptorily declined to be a leader, wherever refusal was possible, for he seemed to have no notion of a leader's duty beyond exposing the pleadings and the law of the case to the jury, who often could not comprehend them with all his explanation.

He had a good judicial understanding, which, with caution, with his aversion to all that was experimental, his want of fancy, contributed to give him a very prominent rank among our ablest judges.

In the demeanor of a judge no rebellious part of human nature appeared, and it was an edifying sight to observe him during a trial in which his feelings were enlisted, addressing himself to the points in the cause with the same calmness with which a mathematician pursues the investigation of an abstract truth, as if there were neither the parties nor the advocates in existence, and only bent on the discovery and the elucidation of truth; and in no station of life did he ever become the comrade of haughty corruption. The extensive knowledge he possessed of all parts of human nature made him credulous of fraud; and a suggestion of its existence always impelled his sagacity to search it out. He was singularly acute in discovering ways by

which the right might be done without seeming to infringe it, and his efforts to make technical distinction subservient to substantial justice were often ingenious and happy.

He was no enthusiast, but in him were united admirable qualities for judicial procedure; he was constant and insatiable, possessed quickness of perception, logical understanding, scientific acquaintance with jurisprudence, resoluteness of purpose, unwearied power of application, and moreover, was capable of explaining his judgments with precision and perspicuity, unswayed by the awe of power, or love of popularity, and uninfluenced by the fear or favor of counsel.

He was unsurpassed at the bar, and when he came to the exercise of judicature, his learning, prudence, dexterity and judgment were more conspicuous. He was a patient observer and attentive hearer, thorough in search and examination, and his decisions evinced admirable steadiness, evenness and cleverness, while his experience familiarized him with business, in which he exhibited profound judgment, singular prudence, great moderation, justice and integrity.

These recollections, of so little intrinsic value in themselves, will, like other memories of dear friends who have passed the portals of time, possess some interest in the estimation of descendants and former friends and patrons. Unquestionably the cause of religion, virtue and morality finds an advocate in the lives and example of such men as Judges Jessup, Conyngham, Woodward and Kidder.

In the broad field of letters, few men have a genius more expansive, and few have been more successful in the administration of judicial procedure or in the endeavor to disseminate the means of an enlightened and rational enjoyment.

The respect due these men arises not from any credulous confidence in the superior wisdom of the past generation, but is the consequence of acknowledged and indubitable positions filled by them. Although human judgment is gradually gaining upon certainty, it is not infallible; and what has been longest known, has been most considered; and what has been most considered, is best understood.

These observations are to be considered only as containing general and predominant truth, and in this pretension little regard is due to that bigotry which sets candor higher than truth. In reigning these illustrious men to the examination and determination of critical justice, no other demand in their favor is made than that which is indulgently conceded to all human excellence.

All their native feelings and tendencies of mind receive their cast and coloring from a prevailing sentiment of respect for others, which diffused its influence over their feelings, habits and social life.

Adequate justice to these past memories requires that philosophical discrimination, which does not permit the eye of posterity to be blinded by the clouds which time gathers about the past.

They aimed at permanent usefulness, and the lighter pursuits of literature commanded less attention than the severer studies.

A decided and persevering purpose to do good was a controlling principle in their lives, the spring and support of their exertions.

They never sought to purchase the phantom popularity by any compliances beneath the dignity of a stalwart manhood.

There was an insinuating earnestness and an unaffected simplicity in their manner and method of thought, and in their life work, which invariably reached the hearer's conscience, but so imperceptibly that it is difficult to analyze the influence or show the operation of its elements.

Many may be diligent in intellectual or moral culture. Great genius is bestowed only upon few. A view of the judicial character and labors of these men, though hasty and partial, is useful to whom the recital creates in imagination an ideal presence to travel back to them and find an intellectual pleasure in the conference of sacred memories.

GEO. URQUHART, M. D.

#### OUR VALLEY'S COAL GROWTH.

Like Abou Ben Adhem's Name, it Leads  
All the Rest.

Last year I made a calculation of the number of tons of coal mined in the Wyoming Valley, or rather a computation of the returns of the two inspectors, whose jurisdictions respectively are within the valley. This was for the purpose of showing the relative consequence of the valley as a factor in the production of anthracite coal. I found that we had produced slightly in excess of one-third of the entire production. That is, the whole anthracite region, embracing all or part of six great counties, had produced but twice as much anthracite as the little valley from Shikshinny up to the line dividing Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties. The comparison last year was:

Wyoming Valley .....	11,900,000
Entire product .....	34,941,017

A similar compilation for 1888, which I have just completed, gives us a still greater relative importance, the figures being:

Wyoming Valley .....	18,468,852
Entire product .....	88,145,718

This is a wonderful showing. It means the distribution of at least \$18,500,000 in wages and much more in supplies. At \$5.50 per ton, which is the lowest average at which the actual consumer gets it, the sum of \$74,067,688 is realized. In addition, new manufactories are springing up in every direction, though it may be said that the "manufacturing spirit" is only now becoming manifest among our people, but it is growing stronger all the time and bids very hopefully for the future in this line, this fact being plain as day to all who keep track of the signs. What call is there for fear of Oklahoma or Ouray or natural gas booms in face of conditions such as these?

O. BEN JOHNSON,  
Secretary Board of Trade.

Was Born in Nova Scotia.

The late Edward Jones, who died at Nanticoke, April 17, was a native of Nova Scotia, and was 68 years old. His wife died nearly three years ago from the effects of an accident, and Mr. Jones had since then lived with his son-in-law, Wm. Ritter, on Broad Street. He leaves four children, all grown up, Charles E., Walter, residing in Texas; Helen, now Mrs. Wm. Ritter, and Annie E., wife of Chas. E. Puckey. He was an Episcopalian.

The funeral of the late Edward Jones took place at Nanticoke on Friday afternoon at 3:30. The services were held in the Protestant Episcopal Church, Rev. H. L. Jones, of St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, officiating. There was a large gathering of friends from Wilkes Barre and Nanticoke. The remains were interred in Hanover Cemetery. Some hymns were rendered by a choir consisting of Mrs. Maury, Mrs. S. Beidleman, A. Puckey, Wm. Letcher and Mr. Newman.

Died in Allentown.

Mrs. Margaret Jackson Colt, wife of Henry Colt, of Allentown, died in that city Tuesday April 28. Mrs. Colt was a daughter of Silas Jackson, a former resident of Wilkes Barre. She was a step daughter of Esquire Thomas Dyer, who married her mother many years ago. Mrs. Colt was well advanced in age, and had been an invalid for many years. She was formerly a member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, of this city.

The funeral services of the late Mrs. Margaret Colt were held in St. Stephen's Church Thursday immediately after the arrival of the body from Allentown. A large number of friends attended. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

**DEATH OF JUDGE DANA.**

**A Hero of the Mexican War and of the Rebellion, a Brilliant Jurist and One of Wilkes-Barre's Most Distinguished Citizens Passes Away.**

April 25 General E. L. Dana died at his residence, 379 South Main Street. About a year ago a slight hemorrhage of the brain occurred and since that time he has gradually failed in bodily and mental vigor. Towards the end he lost the power of speech and of memory.

He is survived by one son, Charles Edmund, who studied art and traveled in Europe. The son is married to Emily T. Woodbury, a granddaughter of Jacob Oist, Esq., an old resident of this city. Dr. Charles Dana, a brother, lives in Tunkhannock. General Dana was married in 1842 to Sarah Peters, a daughter of Ralph Peters, Esq., of Philadelphia. The funeral will take place on Monday.

Edmund Lovell Dana's career, both in military and civil life, has been fraught with interesting experiences. He was born in this city Jan. 29, 1817. Two years later his father, Asa Stevens Dana, removed with his family to a village called Eaton, near Tunkhannock, where Edmund was reared as a farmer's lad. He assisted at the farm during summer, and at winter attended a country school a few months. When fifteen years of age he entered the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, and in the year 1835 entered Yale College as a sophomore. In three years he graduated and immediately after took up the occupation of a civil engineer on the North Branch Canal. He remained at this business for about one year, when he entered the office of Hon. Luther Kidder, then of this city, as a law student. April 6, 1841, having completed his studies, he was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County. He immediately took charge of the extensive law practice of George W. Woodward, who was just then appointed president judge of the Fourth Judicial District. For four years thereafter he practiced law in this and Wyoming Counties.

In 1842, when the famous "Wyoming Artillerists" were organized in Wilkes-Barre, Francis Bowman, captain, Mr. Dana was elected first lieutenant. Soon after this Capt. Bowman was elected to the office of inspector of the Second Brigade, Pennsylvania Militia, and Lieut. Dana was elected to the vacant captaincy. When the United States Government sent out a call for troops to aid in prosecuting the Mexican War, Captain Dana was among the first to respond to the call. December 8, 1846, the company of 124 men embarked for Pittsburg, the Pennsylvania starting point for the seat of war. The citizens of this city were loath to

see them depart and at a public meeting General Dana was presented with a handsome sword. When they arrived at Pittsburg snow and ice covered the ground and the weather was intolerably cold. Thirty of the men joined other companies, 84 forming a company. The Artillerists were known as Co. I, First Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. December 23, 1846, they left for New Orleans. Jan. 16 they started for Vera Cruz. Capt. Dana distinguished himself in the siege of that city, and was one of the men assigned to receive the surrender of the city of San Juan D'Ulloa. April 18, 1847, in the battle of Cerro Gordo, his company, at the side of Gen. Scott, assisted in capturing a large part of the Mexican army and dispersing the remainder. He received special mention for bravery and good command at the siege of Pueblo and for leading the charge of El Pinal Pass. July 20, 1848, after brilliant service, his company was mustered out of service at Pittsburg, when the treaty of peace was signed. The citizens of Wilkes-Barre tendered them a hearty ovation on their arrival home. Each member of the company was looked upon as a hero. Judge Conyngham delivered an eulogistic address.

Capt Dana resumed the practice of law. In 1851 he was defeated for Congress by Hon. John Brisbin. Hon. Charles R. Buckalew defeated him for the office of State Senator in 1853.

In the fall of 1860 Captain Dana was elected major general of the Ninth Division Pennsylvania Militia, from the counties of Wyoming, Montour, Luzerne and Columbia. In the summer of 1862 he was appointed by Governor Curtin commandant of a camp of organization in Kingston Township, known as Camp Luzerne. He was elected colonel of the 148d Regiment, recruited at this camp. On November 7 the regiment broke camp and proceeded to Washington, from which place, after some duty, they went to the front, arriving at Belle Plain Camp February 17, 1863, where the regiment became part of the First Army Corps. On the 20th they saw their first active service, when they crossed the river below Fredericksburg. On the night of May 2, on the march to Chancellorsville, they were exposed to a brisk fire. The woods were full of rebels and many of the men were left behind dead or wounded. Colonel Dana's regiment was the first regiment of the corps of infantry to reach the field of Gettysburg the fore part of June. July 1 the brigade was stationed on the ridge opposite the Seminary, and Colonel Dana's regiment formed on the line of railroad. The brigade commander was killed and the charge devolved on the colonel. The fire was terrific. The rebel fire burst on every side and the

men, one after another, fell on the field of battle. The brigade was forced to take its position near the cemetery. Colonel Dana cheered his command throughout that protracted struggle, walking on foot from one end to another, and from him the soldiers caught an inspiration that made them heroes on the battle field. General Longstreet's charge on the morning of the third was terrific and the brigade lost half its number in killed and wounded. After this Colonel Dana led his command in pursuit of the Confederate army. He was taken prisoner May 5, 1864, with a large number of his officers and men in the Wilderness campaign. He was conveyed to Orange Court House, to Danville, to Macon, Ga., and then to Charleston, where he was one of fifty officers who were placed under fire in front of the Union guns for some breach of the rules of war by the Federal Government. His prison life was one continual torture, occasioned by rough treatment and insufficient food. Major Raymond, of the Confederate Army, a class mate of Colonel Dana at Yale, heard of their sufferings and during the remainder of their prison life they fared better. The party was exchanged August 3, 1864, and Colonel Dana resumed his command before Petersburg. He was in many battles and adventures after this, when, after a brief term of service in the North, the regiment was mustered out June 12, 1865. He received many favorable notices from his superiors to the war department. Although in command of a brigade he still retained the title of Colonel, until some time after his imprisonment, when his distinguished services were becoming known, the error was corrected, and he was brevetted brigadier-general. He was mustered out August 23, 1865. Some one has said of him that his record as a soldier surpassed that of any other individual in Northern Pennsylvania.

After his service in the army he resumed the practice of law, and in the fall of 1867 was elected additional law judge of the Eleventh Judicial District, the county of Luzerne. His opponent was ex-Gov. Henry M. Hoyt. He served the full term of ten years. He was also *ex-officio* recorder of the mayors' courts in Scranton and Carbondale. At the expiration of his term he was renominated by the Democratic convention of 1877 and endorsed by the Republican convention for re election. About 125 members of the bar had previously handed him a petition asking him to accept the nomination. That year the Greenback Labor party came into the field in full force, and although Democrats and Republicans alike worked strenuously for him, the Greenback party swept the field, but after a service of a few weeks

on the bench their elected candidate was deposed for incompetency by the citizens and members of the bar.

He was president of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, and was an active member since its organization. He was also an incorporator of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. He was a member of St. Stephen's Church of this city. From 1882 to 1885 he was president of City Council. He is ex-president of the Society of the Army of the Potomac. He was a member of Lodge 61, Free Masons, of this city. General Dana was also an orator of no mean ability, and on many occasions he delivered addresses before historical and military societies and at college commencements. The above record speaks for itself. His heroic devotion to his country in times of trouble marked him as a true patriot. His private life has been filled with brilliant incidents. He has stepped from one position to another, higher and higher, and during peace and war he has at all times commanded the respect and confidence of the people. His sound judgment and quickness of perception, both as general and as judge, are incidents of his success in life.

The Danas as a family are distinguished all over the country. The first member of the family to arrive in America came over in 1640 and settled in New England. Anderson Dana was the first one to settle in the Wyoming Valley. He went to Pittston in 1771. He afterwards removed to this city, where he was a lawyer. He was killed by the Indians. Anderson Dana, Jr., had a son, Asa Stevens Dana, who married Ann, daughter of Hon. Joseph Pruner, of Hanover Township, who became the parents of Gen. Dana, their eldest child.

#### ACTION BY THE BAR.

Judge Rice Adjourns Court Out of Respect for the Late Judge Dana—Held in Affectionate Memory by the Bar

Only a short session of court was held Monday morning, whereupon an adjournment for the day was taken, out of respect to the memory of the late Judge Dana. Previous to adjournment, however, Judge Rice made the following announcement:

On Thursday last Hon. Edmund Lovell Dana, a life-long citizen of Wilkes-Barre and for more than forty-eight years a member of the Luzerne bar, passed from this life. After receiving a collegiate education and pursuing the usual course of legal study he was admitted to practice as an attorney at law in April 1841. He pursued the practice of his chosen profession with assiduity and merited success until December, 1846, when with the Wyoming Artillerists, of which company he was an officer, he

tendered his services to the government in response to a call for troops to aid in the prosecution of the war with Mexico. He served his country faithfully and with honor to himself during that war, and upon the declaration of peace again returned to the practice of his profession. Again to the war for the preservation of the Union he tendered his services to the Government and served his country with distinguished valor, until the close of the war. His name is indissolubly linked with some of the most memorable and decisive events of that struggle and will not pass into oblivion until the history of those events cease to interest patriots.

In 1837 he was chosen to preside in these courts and served a full term of ten years. I venture to affirm that his services upon the Bench, if less brilliant in the popular estimation than his services of a soldier, were none the less characterized by fidelity to duty and disinterestedness. His scholarly tastes and acquirements admirably fitted him to adorn the position. He was conscientious and painstaking. He had real respect for the law, and faithful to his oath sought to administer it fairly and not his own personal will. He was just and impartial and no suitor could ever come before him with the hope of winning his cause through favor, or the fear of losing it through partiality or inattention. He was a sensitive man, in the best meaning of that term, and I presume did not disdain the approval of his fellow men, but fears of popular clamor or misconception of his motives or of the wisdom of his course did not warp his judgment. With modesty, and yet becoming dignity, with conscientious fidelity, with industry and real learning, with a high sense of his responsibility he administered the duties of his office wisely, uprightly and justly.

As a lawyer he stood in the front rank of the profession he loved and respected, as a judge he gave additional honor to the office, and left a record without a stain, a record of distinguished, able and faithful service that will ensure the lasting preservation of his memory in the respect and gratitude of the people whom he served.

Notwithstanding the pressure of business it is proper that on this day, when all that is moral of this distinguished citizen, patriot and jurist is to be committed to the dust, the courts in which so important a part of his services to the public was rendered should be closed.

It is therefore ordered that the court be now adjourned for the day and that a minute setting forth the cause of the adjournment be entered on the record.

A meeting of the bar was then called in the court room. Caleb E. Wright, Esq., of Berks County, a former member of the

Lozerne bar, was called to the chair and George K. Powell, Esq., was made secretary. Mr. Wright spoke briefly, and said it was a surprise and certainly a great honor to him to be called to preside at the meeting. Referring to the strange faces about him, he said that one by one the old members of the bar had lain down their arms and left the arena. "It is thirty-five years ago," said Mr. Wright, "that, standing on the corner by Butter's store, a man approached with springy, elastic step, that I had never seen before. He was introduced as General Dana." He then referred to the fact that this introduction was supplemented by an acquaintance and friendship of thirty-five years.

Judge Stanley Woodward was the first to speak, and he said Judge Dana had not only rendered the State service, but great service. The speaker referred to the deceased as his Sunday School teacher in St. Stephen's Church, and noted as an incident characteristic of the man, that he always brought with him a Greek testament and used it in his class. He had graduated from Yale College in 1837 or '38, and was a scholar at that early date. He referred to the thrill of excitement that swept through the community when it was announced that Wilkes-Barre was to furnish one of the companies that was to go to Mexico; to Judge Dana's return; to his regaining the practice that he had lost through his absence, and to his second response to the call for men at the breaking out of the Rebellion. He showed the qualities of the true man and patriot everywhere.

A. T. McClintock, Esq., said that Judge Dana did so much that most of us have forgotten what he did. He was a lawyer of high attainments, a brave soldier, a gentleman and a scholar. As a lawyer and judge he sought only that justice might be done. He filled his position with honor to himself and with credit to our profession.

Dr. H. Hakes said that following out a custom, nearly a law, the members of the bar had assembled to put the final stamp upon the departed. It was a time when all rivalries must end, when the solemnity of the occasion demands of us to overlook foibles, frailties and frivolities, and in a sentence sum up the whole professional life of a brother, it was pleasant to review the whole past, and mark no blemish. Whether at the bar fifty years or ten years upon the bench, no reasonable man can say that our brother has not, in both capacities, filled the full measure of professional requirements. He was a safe, capable and honorable attorney, a just and upright judge. Had he, as many men do, made himself a slave to his profession, he would have ranked with the greatest. He wisely refrained from the

highest honors to be more a man, and more a useful citizen. As a man of letters, science was not so much to his taste as art, polite literature, history, &c. He possessed a versatility of learning that made an agreeable companion among all classes of men. If we add to all his varied tastes and acquirements his noble and patriotic services in two wars, the accumulation of a large private fortune, we must concede that he has filled the full measure of usefulness, his full day as a man. To accomplish so much, makes him as much more than an ordinary man. He leaves a name and fame that will long be cherished by the people of Pennsylvania.

I think our brother enjoyed the consolation of the Christian philosophy, and accepted without question its orthodox doctrines. In this, as in the law, he was not to be a great leader. Decidedly conservative he was, and much preferred in either field to follow precedent, or well established doctrines and decisions. We may question if, chronologically, this pleasant and solemn duty is performed at the proper time, for his death presents to us a stupendous puzzle of our being. The Judge Dana we refer to on this sad occasion has been dead a year and a half. Added to a too active mental life, the injury he received a few years since, in a railway accident, probably determined the event, which left him for a period but a sort of vegetative existence, much less tolerable than death itself.

Judge Rhone, of the Orphans' Court, remarked that he knew Judge Dana for 80 years and from his first acquaintance recognized him as one of the marked men of this valley. He was a leading citizen, was prominent in literary, charitable, educational and scientific circles. He was a man who always saw the good in everything, whether in the individual, the State or the Nation. In all these he sought that which was great and noble and good, rather than the little, the ignoble and the bad.

E. H. Chase, Esq., spoke as follows:

On the first day of December, 1856, I registered as a law student with Judge Dana, and remained in his office until the breaking out of the war. Capt. Dana, as he was then universally called, was in the prime of life and in the maturity of his powers. He had won a front place at the bar of the county. Associated with the late Judge Warren J. Woodward, he had just carried successfully throughout all the courts a pioneer case establishing the principles upon which the relative rights of surface owners and mine workers were definitely determined, the importance of which had attracted the attention of the profession throughout the State. He had at this time a large clientele and his practice was

busy in the Common Pleas, Criminal and Orphans' Courts. He devoted himself assiduously to his clients' cause and prepared himself with tireless industry and most painstaking investigation. Every possible phase of the cause was calculated out beforehand, evidence of witnesses carefully written out, opposing evidence anticipated, and the legal positions pro and con vindicated by copious notes and references. He had a musical voice, clear and strong, and an earnest and dignified manner in speaking, with easy and graceful gestures, which made it a pleasure to listen to him.

He was a devoted student to art and culture generally. Daily he read his allotted chapters in the Greek Testament, and the classic authors had their place in his little collection of handy books of reference over his working table. He had a cultivated eye and touch for painting and his impromptu studio was a notable attraction not only for the curios he had gathered but also for the gems he had himself created. His faculty of comparison was ready and his rhetoric polished so that he was in demand in the lyceum and on public literary occasions. Political themes were not to his taste, though on occasions of being called upon the hustings he was not wanting in the knowledge and arts of entertaining miscellaneous assemblages. It is singular and pathetic to recall the vicissitudes of his distinguished career. An accomplished scholar with refined tastes and attainments, a thorough lawyer devoted to his profession, and in his private life a conspicuous example of the law-abiding citizen, modest and retiring in disposition, he yet twice in the course of his life abandoned his accessories and for terms of years submitted to the deprivations of the camp, and apparently with ardor. In deeds of violence when the laws are silent and in the clash of arms he gained renown and promotion for personal bravery and physical prowess. He knew the arduous cares of the *angusta res* yet lived to realize the anxiety ever an income beyond the ambition to expend. Endowed with faculties trained by study and exercise to a high degree of mental excellence, with traits of moral character which enforced in him an exemplary life and brought him esteem among his fellow men, and which, with his special learning in the law, seemed to designate him for a long life of high usefulness and honor at the bar and upon the bench, he ages before his time and his mind enters a premature grave before his body is ready for consignment to the tomb.

Judge Dana's memory is an inspiration, notwithstanding the deep pathos of his later months, and when thoughtfully recalled



largely on account of it. For it is unquestionable that the exposure and physical strain of his military life—in his case literally a patriotic consecration of himself—sapped the vigor of a powerful constitution and shortened materially his term of life.

He attained prominence because he deserved it. It was not bequeathed to him, but he achieved it. He made himself what he was and what he became by fidelity to conviction, by study, by industry, by perseverance, by cultivating, and above all, by dedicating his faculties and opportunities.

J. V. Darling said he had no flowers of rhetoric to lay on the dead Judge's grave, but he wished to pay a personal tribute to his absolute devotion to duty. It was a devotion which came from the professional principle of right action and a sense of obligation to his profession which makes the lawyer give to his client every faculty of his nature. When he ascended the bench he took the same exactness and devotion with him. No cause was too trivial for his most careful attention or so complicated as to prevent his most searching analysis.

Hon. L. D. Shoemaker said he was at college with Judge Dana, though graduating two years later, and had known him ever since 1880. They were boys together in the old academy. During all this time they had been most intimate. The characteristic which he would longest remember in the Judge was that he was a finished American gentleman. There was no pride in him, though he was conscious of his intellectual attainments. He was always plain, affable and ready to meet you half way. Mr. Shoemaker spoke of the final decline and of a characteristic letter received from Judge Dana, written from Denver soon after the first attack. Though seemingly well at that time, he came home from Colorado a year ago unconscious, since which time his mental powers were shattered.

Ex-Senator H. B. Payne and A. Farnham spoke briefly, after which an adjournment was had until 1 o'clock, at which time the bar, reassembled, adopted the following resolutions, submitted by a committee comprising A. R. Brundage, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Dr. H. Hakes, Hon. Stanley Woodward and Hon. A. T. McClintock, and proceeded in a body to the house:

The Bar of Luzerne County having met for the purpose of expressing in an appropriate and permanent form, their sentiments on the occasion of the death of Hon. Edmund L. Dana, do resolve:

1, That in the death of Judge Dana, the Bar of Luzerne County has lost from its ranks its most accomplished, as well as its most distinguished member, and one whose career, considered as a whole, has been a history of fidelity to duty, of

great usefulness to his fellow men, and of brilliant achievements which it seldom falls to the lot of any one man to illustrate, in the brief space of a single human life. In scholarship and polite learning he has had no equal at this bar. His patriotism was intense and unselfish, as was shown by his service to his country in the two wars through which he voluntarily served. His integrity, and his reputation as a learned, faithful, industrious, and just lawyer, resulted in his election to the bench of this district, where, for a period of ten years, he performed all the duties of high position with honor to himself and to the judicial office which he so well filled. As a man he was known and recognized as a model American gentleman, and his quiet, unobtrusive and modest disposition was associated with the most genial appreciation of the delights of social intercourse with his fellow men. The death of such a man marks an era in the history of this bar and his memory will be long cherished as that of one who has shed imperishable honor on its history.

2, That as a slight testimonial of our respect for our deceased brother, we attend his funeral in a body, and wear the usual badge of mourning, and that these resolutions be published in the papers of the county, and after being properly engrossed, and signed by the officers of this meeting, be forwarded to his family.

3, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the court as a perpetual memorial.

#### LAI D AT REST.

The Last Tribute of Respect to the Earthly Remains of Judge Edmund L. Dana.

The rain was pouring in sheets Monday afternoon when the friends of the late Judge Dana were assembling at his late residence on South Main Street. The body lay in a darkened room which was almost oppressive with the odor of a display of flowers. The throng was too large for the house to accommodate and the greater number stood out in the pelting rain. The Luzerne Bar was present in a body. The Wyoming Artillerists, of which the deceased had been commanding officer since its inception, attended in uniform and carried a flag which had seen service. There were also many of the veterans of the 148d Regiment, P. V., who went to the front with Capt. Dana in 1861 and returned with Gen. Dana in 1865. Besides all these were many comrades of the Grand Army in uniform. Among the veterans of the Mexican War were Dr. E. N. Banks and Josiah J. McDormott. There were also many prominent private citizens, among them Dr. Ingham, Dr. A.

L. Cressler, Richard Sharpe, Sheldon Reynolds, Edward Welles, Dr. Stardevant, J. W. Patten, Richard Gunton, Calvin Parsons, Thomas Wilson, Capt. Jacob Rice, F. J. Montgomery, H. C. Fry, Wm. Toomb, Rev. J. W. Harrison, Major O. A. Parsons, Charles J. Long and others. Rev. S. S. Kennedy was also present, representing the Luzerne County Bible Society, of which deceased was vice president. Col. Charles Dorrance and Wesley Johnson were in attendance as president and secretary, respectively, of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, of which Judge Dana was one of the vice presidents.

Lodge 61, F. and A. M., would have attended as a lodge, but it was considered by Judge Dana's friends that his distinguished military record ought to take precedence over his other associations, and so the Wyoming Artillerists Veteran Association was accorded the honor of first place, and Masonic law forbids the brethren attending funerals in their organized capacity unless the fraternity have exclusive charge. There was, however, a large attendance of the brethren as individuals and neighbors, besides such as were members also of the military in charge.

The honorary pall bearers were Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Congressman Osborne, Judge Rice, Dr. Hakes, Col. B. Bruce Ricketts, Col. C. M. Conyngham and the carriers were officers in the late war—Captain Graham, Captain P. De Lacy, Captain Marcy, Lieut. John W. Connor, Lieut. Rufus Marcy, Lieut. F. M. Shoemaker. Most of them were officers in Col. Dana's regiment.

The service was that of the Episcopal Church, of which Judge Dana had been a communicant for many years, a quartet choir furnishing the music. Rev. Henry L. Jones read the ritual, and the address, which was specially touching and impressive, was by Rev. Dr. Hodge, of the First Presbyterian Church. A long line of carriages accompanied the remains to Hollenback Cemetery.

Among the relatives were the Judge's brothers, W. A. Dana and Dr. Charles Dana, his sisters, Mrs. Wheelock and Mrs. Metcalf, all of Tunkhannock; Mr. and Mrs. Cappell, Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. Swetland, Forty Fort; Anderson Dana, Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Piatt, Edmund Dana, Mr. and Mrs. Streeter, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf, Mr. and Mrs. Berry, all of Tunkhannock.

#### NOTES OF THE FUNERAL.

The meeting of the managers of the Luzerne County Bible Society, of which deceased was a vice president, will be held in the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church

on Friday, May 8, at 8 p. m., to take suitable action.

The flag on the Court House tower floated at half mast throughout the day.

No one will mourn more keenly for Judge Dana than his niece, Miss Anna Wheelock, who has been his constant companion since she was eight years of age.

Josiah J. McDormott, of the 11th U. S. Regulars, a veteran of the Mexican War, carried the flag that received its baptism of fire at Vera Cruz, while carried by the Wyoming Artillerists under command of Gen. Dana.

Of the pall bearers and carriers, Col. Ricketts, Col. Conyngham and Captain Graham, represented the Loyal Legion; Capt. De Lacy, Major F. M. Shoemaker, Capt. B. W. Marcy, the 148rd Regiment; Lieut. J. M. Connor and Lieut. B. J. Marcy, the Wyoming Artillerists.

Col. Robert Klotz, of Mauch Chunk, a Mexican veteran, in the 2d P. V., was present. Wesley Johnson was with the American forces in Mexico during the war, but not on military duty.

Among the out of town veterans of the late war were: Capt. Schooley, of Pittston; Joseph Hilleman, Esq., Pittston; Hon. Robert McOnne, Major Blair, of Scranton; Lieut. Wolcott, of Kingston; Capt. W. Simpson, of Berwick; Capt. McKown, of Tunkhannock, and Capt. Jacob Rice, of Dallas.

At the annual meeting of the Osterhout Free Library, held April 26, the following minute was entered on their records:

"The directors of the Osterhout Free Library, having heard with deep sorrow that our honored president, Gen. Edmund L. Dana, departed this life yesterday afternoon, do hereby appoint a committee, consisting of Mr. Sheldon Reynolds and Rev. H. L. Jones, to prepare a paper expressing our appreciation of his character, attainments and services—to be spread in full upon our minutes.

As a further testimony of respect for his memory.

Resolved, I. That the election of officers of the corporation, to have been held this day, be postponed until the next stated meeting.

II. That we will attend in a body the funeral on Monday next, and that the library be closed during the hours of the funeral.

#### Found on Sullivan's Trail.

[Tunkhannock New Age, April 18.]

Anderson Dana, while plowing on his farm across the river yesterday, turned up a coin dated 1771. It is of Spanish make and is supposed to have been lost by Indians as it was found directly on the old historical Sullivan trail. Mr. Dana has frequently found Indian relics, such as skulls, pottery, beads, etc., on his farm. The coin is well preserved, the date being very distinct.

**RUFUS J. BELL DEAD.****A Well Known Attorney Passes Away  
After a Sickness of Only a Few Hours—  
Dissolution Follows a Convulsion.**

Rufus J. Bell died at his boarding place, at McMurtrie's restaurant, corner North Main and Jackson Streets, at 11:45 o'clock Sunday night. He ate a light breakfast and did not complain of feeling unwell until after dinner, when he asked Mr. McMurtrie to get him a little cracked ice, remarking that he was suffering with a bilious attack. He ate this, together with a stimulant, and remained seated in the chair until 5 o'clock, when he became very sick and Mr. McMurtrie carried him in to bed. Dr. Howell was summoned about 7 o'clock and he said he could give him nothing that would aid him. A half hour later he was seized with a convulsion and he could scarcely be kept in bed. A cup of tea was given him but he could not drink it, neither could he speak. He lingered thus until fifteen minutes before midnight when he died. The doctor attributed his death to a stroke of paralysis, saying that the convulsion sometimes precedes such an attack.

Rufus James Bell was of New England stock, his father, Ebenezer Bell, and grandfather, Jonathan Bell, being natives of Stamford, Conn. His father later removed to Troy, N. Y., and was a prominent merchant there. The subject of this sketch was born in Troy, N. Y., Sept. 6 1828, and was therefore 60 years old. He prepared for college at Burr Seminary, Manchester, Vermont, and four years after was graduated at Williams. He studied law at the Harvard law school from which he received his degree of LL. B. in 1852. In 1853 he practiced law in Albany, N. Y., and from that year until 1864 he practiced his profession in New York City. In 1864 he removed to Wilkes Barre, where he has since resided. He was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar Sept. 27, 1864. In April, 1860, he married Mary Oastarine, daughter of the late Oliver B. Hillard, of Wilkes-Barre. There are three children, Oliver Hillard Bell, Mary Conyngham Bell and Emma Gertrude Bell.

Mr. Bell's reputation throughout Luzerne County is well established as a writer, as well as an attorney. From the time that he served as first clerk to the upper end mine inspectors under the ventilation law he had always been identified with the labor movement in this region. When the Greenback party

became a prominent factor in politics '77-'78, Mr. Bell was the editorial writer on the party organ, the *Reformer*, and his services were being constantly called into requisition on various committees of the party. His writings on this subject, as upon all others, partook of the enthusiasm of his nature and they possessed cogency and fluency as well. He was the ablest writer of the party hereabout. Before and since the rise and fall of the Greenback party Mr. Bell was a Democrat and he has often been heard on the stump, advocating the principles of that party. In business transactions he was strictly honorable, so those say who knew him best. His mind was naturally brilliant, and it was a rare pleasure to hear him discourse upon such subjects as particularly interested him, though he was a man of broad and liberal culture and was thoroughly at home in subjects pertaining to the lives and works of the great English writers. Had it not been for an unfortunate tendency to the use of stimulants, which had alienated him from his friends, he would have stood among the greatest lawyers in the State, such was his natural ability.

**Died at Eighty-Two.**

Mrs. Harriet Myers, of Kingston, mother of F. B. Myers, died at her home at 9:30 Thursday, May 2. She was prostrated by the rupture of a blood vessel in the brain and was unconscious for several hours before her death. She leaves four children, F. B. Myers and Mrs. A. J. Weaver and Mrs. Charles Steele, of Falls City, Neb. Deceased was 82 years of age, and was the widow of Madison Myers.

She was a daughter of Philip Myers, one of the early settlers of Wyoming, and was born at Forty Fort. Her mother was Martha Bennet, taken prisoner by the Indians at Wyoming massacre in 1778. She had four brothers, now all dead, John (father of Lawrence and P. H. Myers), Henry, William and Lawrence. Her sisters married Abram Goodwin, Rev. Dr. George Peck, Rev. Joseph Castle and Emmons Locke.

**Died in Orange.**

Caroline, wife of Dr. J. C. Morris, died at her home in Orange, near Dallas, on the 10th inst., of heart disease. Deceased was 67 years of age, and her maiden name was Fuller, her birth place being Exeter Township. She is survived by her husband and three sons, Frank F., W. M. and John. The latter lives at Delphi, Ind. The late Mrs. A. J. Brace was a daughter. Funeral Monday at 10 a. m., from the house.

### DEATH OF COL. BOWMAN.

#### Sketch of the Life of an Old Soldier—An Honorable Record—Col. Bowman's Father.

Col Samuel Bowman, an old resident of this city, died Friday, April 19, at 8:15 pm., of paralysis, at his home on South Street, after a long illness, he having been an invalid and almost blind for several years. He was born in Wilkes-Barre Oct. 31, 1818, and was the fourth child of Gen. Isaac Bowman. His mother was Mary Smith, of Weathersfield, Conn., and her death occurred in Wilkes-Barre in January, 1878, aged 25 years.

He evinced a fondness for military life and in 1859 he was elected brigadier general of the brigade of Pennsylvania militia, first commanded by his father and afterwards by his brother, but owing to certain informalities with which the election had been conducted it was declared illegal and void, and the commission was never issued. He was lieutenant colonel of the 8th Pennsylvania Volunteers in the three months' service in the War of the Rebellion.

Col. Bowman is said to have been one of the earliest prisoners captured by the Confederates. He was the twelfth, E. H. Chase, of this city, being the eleventh. They were members of the Eighth Regiment, P. V., three months men, and were captured as soon as they reached the front. On June 19, 1861, Col. Bowman and Mr. Chase crossed the Potomac to reconnoitre, not being aware of the enemy's presence, and were captured within sight of their own camp. They were taken to Winchester, thence to Richmond, where they were on parole for two weeks and amused themselves by attending the Constitutional Convention, then in session, and consulting with President Jefferson Davis as to exchange. No exchange was effected however, and the two prisoners were taken to Raleigh and Salisbury.

Two of his brothers were brave soldiers. James was at West Point with Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee, and was a lieutenant in the 1st U. S. Dragoons. Frank organized the Wyoming Artillerists, was an officer in the Mexican War. From 1849 to 1855 he was brigadier general of the 2d Brigade, 9th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, the position and rank formerly held by his father. In 1855, through the friendship of Jefferson Davis, then U. S. Secretary of

War, he was commissioned captain in the 9th U. S. Infantry. He perished in an Oregon wilderness in 1858.

Col. Bowman's sister, Mary, survives him and resides in Wilkes-Barre. His wife died about 25 years ago. The children who survive are Kate, wife of W. V. Ingham; Miss Ella Bowman, Julia, wife of E. L. Mulligan, of this city, and Mrs. Sarah Ohlshelm, of Buffalo, N. Y. His only son died while young.

Mr. Bowman's long residence in Wilkes-Barre City and borough has made him familiar with its history, and he was wont to entertain his friends with a recital of its early experiences. He was respected by all and his record as a soldier and as a civilian will long remain upon the historic pages of his native city and State.

Gen. Isaac Bowman, father of deceased, was born at New Braintree, Mass., in 1778. In 1795 Gen. Bowman left his New England home and, accepting the invitation of his uncle, emigrated to the Wyoming Valley, arriving here Nov. 5, 1795. He established a tannery and conducted it for many years. He took a great interest in military matters and this was natural for the reason that his father and grandfather were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. He first entered Gen. Slocum's company of the "Wyoming Blues." He became second lieutenant and served in that capacity for some time, when he was elected first lieutenant. When the declaration of war with Great Britain was announced the "Wyoming Blues" were among the first to tender their services and Lieutenant Bowman was elected captain. He afterwards was elected colonel of the 45th Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia. In June, 1821, he was chosen brigadier-general of the Second Brigade, 8th Division, Pennsylvania Militia, which position he held until 1823. His last military service was as brigade inspector of the same brigade.

In civil life he acted as a member of the Wilkes-Barre borough council, a director of the branch of the Philadelphia Bank established here in 1810, the first bank in Luzerne County. This bank was located on River Street, below Market. In 1810 he acted as coroner of Luzerne County, in 1814 collector of taxes, in 1819 commissioned as sheriff. Governor Wolf appointed him recorder of deeds and register of wills for a term of three years; in 1838 was reappointed for a second term, and in 1839 for a third term by Gov. Porter. For thirty years he was a member of Lodge 61, Free Masons, having been initiated in 1810. By industry and thrift he accumulated valuable real estate, but in his old age he endorsed notes for a friend who became bankrupt, and his own property was all swept away. He died in this city July 30, 1850. His remains were

interred in St. Stephen's Church yard. The funeral was followed by the largest civic and military concourse ever beheld in Wilkes-Barre on a similar occasion. The "Yaegers" and the "Artillerists" escorted the procession.

#### An Old Resident Gone.

Thursday, April 18, at 12 o'clock Mrs. Sarah Nesbit died at her residence on North Sherman Street, of paralysis, aged 73 years. She had been ailing for several years, but it was not until a week ago that she was unable to be about. Her husband, Robert Nesbit, died about twelve years ago. He was for many years in the employ of the L. & W.-B. C. Co. as engineer, and for many years lived near the Hollenback mines. He and his wife emigrated to this country forty years ago. They were of English birth, from the neighborhood of Newcastle, England. Mrs. Nesbit was a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church.

She leaves eight sons and two daughters: George Nesbit, age 40, engineer, and James Nesbit, engineer, age 44, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Sarah Kneitz, age 42, of Emmetsburg, Maryland; Robert Nesbit, age 40, engineer, of Plainsville; Wm. Nesbit, age 38, Merrick Tinkit, Utah; John Nesbit, age 36, of Nanticoke; Thos. Nesbit, age 35, engineer, New Mexico; Mrs. Mary Jones, age 33, of Wilkes-Barre; Septimus Nesbit, age 31, of New Mexico; Joseph Nesbit, age 27, of Wilkes-Barre. She had also an adopted son, William Nesbit, who resides in this city. Mrs. John M. Jones, her only daughter in this city, has always resided near her mother.

#### Died of Consumption.

Editor John Dershuck, formerly of the Hazleton *Sentinel*, died at the Liberty Hotel, Hazleton, at 7 pm. on Friday, April 19. His serious condition dated from last October, when he had a hemorrhage from the lungs, but he continued at work until almost too weak to hold a pen. He had been confined to his bed since the middle of January last. His end was peaceful and painless. Deceased was the son of Peter Dershuck, an old merchant of Hazleton, and was 33 years old. He learned the printers' trade under Henry Wilson, of the *Sentinel*. After working on the *Volkblatt* and *Democrat* he started the *Plain Speaker*, Feb. 6, 1882, and it was in building up his paper that he broke down his health. He worked assiduously to make it a success.

He relinquished the business to his partner, Dominick F. Sweeney, March 9, who had been associated on the staff only about a year.

#### Death of Daniel Dimmock Mosier.

Daniel D. Mosier, an old and respected citizen of West Pittston, died at his home Tuesday, May 14, of liver complaint, aged 74 years.

The *Gazette* says he was born in Middle Smithfield Township, Monroe County, this State, in 1815, and came to Luzerne County at the age of 15. For many years he was a resident of Hughestown Borough, where he filled various local offices. For 10 years before the incorporation of that borough he was justice of the peace of Pittston Township. He was married to Elizabeth A. Ward, a native of Trumbull, Conn. He removed to West Pittston a few years ago, where he built a handsome home and continued to reside until the time of his death.

Mr. Mosier was a man of unquestioned integrity. His wife and four children survive him—three sons and one daughter, viz. John B., Frank C., James H., and Mrs. Georgia M. Stark, (widow of the late Conrad S. Stark, Esq.,) all of whom are well-known in this community.

The funeral will take place on Friday morning at 10 o'clock, services being conducted at the residence. The remains will be interred in Hollenback Cemetery at Wilkes-Barre.

#### The Late D. D. Mosier.

The RECORD reprints by request the following sketch of a Pittston gentleman whose death occurred on May 20th, taken from the *Pittston Gazette*:

Daniel D. Mosier, who has been suffering for some time past with liver affection, died at his residence on Monday morning last, aged 74 years. Mr. Mosier was a native of Smithfield Township, Monroe County, and came to Luzerne County in 1830. The major part of his life was spent upon his farm in Pittston Township, near Hughestown Borough. For ten years past he held the office of justice of the peace of Pittston Township, and was honored by his fellow citizens of Hughestown, since its incorporation, with various local offices, all of which he filled with fidelity. About five years ago he moved to West Pittston, where he resided up to the time of his death. He leaves a wife (Elizabeth A. Ward, a native of Trumbull, Conn.) and three sons and one daughter—John B., Frank C., James H., and Georgia M., wife of the late C. S. Stark, Esq. Mr. Mosier was considered one of the wealthiest citizens of this side, resulting mainly from a royalty of coal underlying under his farm in Hughestown Borough. Deceased for a number of years served as a director of the Peoples' Saving Bank and also

in the board of Water Street Bridge Co. His funeral took place from his late residence Friday and was largely attended. The pall-bearers were Thomas Ford, Charles L. McMillan, Adam A. Bryden, Ralph D. Lacey, Louis Seibel, Col. O. K. Campbell; Isaac Everett and James L. Polen. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery, Wilkes-Barre.

The Stroudsburg *Democrat* says that deceased "was a son of John and Sarah Overfield Mosler, respected and life long residents of Middle Smithfield. Daniel left his father's home over fifty-nine years ago to seek his fortune in the anthracite coal regions of this State, and by his industry succeeded in accumulating a large estate. Deceased was a brother of John and Emanuel Mosler, well known citizens of Monroe County."

#### BORN IN SLAVERY.

**A Well-Known Colored Man Who Gained His Freedom at the Battle of Gettysburg, Passes Away.**

William Logan, a highly respected colored citizen, died at his son's home, 28 Hickory Street, April 23, of the infirmities incident to advancing age. He was 74 years old and was born in Berkeley County, W. Va., in slavery. He was born on the plantation of Rollo Colston, and until 1863 was the property of Edward Colston, a prominent Virginia politician and statesman. He frequently accompanied Mr. Colston to Richmond as his servant. One of his master's sons was a Confederate officer, in Stonewall Jackson's brigade and was killed in battle. When Lee advanced on Gettysburg Mr. Logan was one of the refugees toward the North, accompanied by his family, who lived on a plantation 13 miles distant. One of the sons, John, is now living, in Wilkes-Barre, and Mr. Logan made his home with this son. They made their way to Harrisburg where they stayed a year and then came to Wilkes-Barre, where they have lived ever since. On coming here he engaged as coachman to Col. Hendrick B. Wright. He afterwards lived with Jameison Harvey, T. D. Conyngham, ex-Gov. Hoyt and Thomas Blake. He was a member of Bethel A. M. E. Church. His wife died in 1876. He leaves two children, John, and a daughter, Mrs. Lucy V. Price, a widow, both residing here. Funeral Friday at 3 p. m., from 28 Hickory Street.

#### Death of an Octogenarian.

Daniel Metzger, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Wilkes-Barre, died yesterday at the home of his son, Charles B., from the effect of a stroke of paralysis sustained on April 27. He was a plasterer by trade and did most of the contract work in that line in this city up to the time of his retirement from active life several years ago.

Mr. Metzger was born at Lewisburg, Union Co., Pa., July 28, 1808. His grandfather, John Metzger, emigrated from Holland in 1731 and settled at Middletown, Pa. On New Year's Day, in 1837, deceased married Cynthia Buell, for whom Mr. Metzger's North Main Street block of dwellings, Buell Place, is named. They were married in New York and lived in Lewisburg four years, but removed to Williamsport in the spring of 1841. They removed to Wilkes-Barre in the spring of 1847. Of their seven children two died in infancy, and only two of the others are now living—Charles B., and Malinda A. Those deceased are Rebecca, wife of R. M. Hooper, died 1867; Elizabeth S., died 1853; Juliet H., wife of J. H. Bowden, died 1875. Mrs. Metzger died some years ago.

Mr. Metzger has been an Odd Fellow for about half a century and a Mason for half that time. In the Odd Fellows he filled all the positions, both in the Encampment and the Subordinate Lodge, and at the time of his death he was treasurer of old Lodge 61, Free and Accepted Masons. When Wilkes-Barre was a borough Mr. Metzger was a Councilman for eight years. When a young man he united with the Christian Church and was a member at the time of his demise.

Mr. Metzger leaves a valuable estate, but he leaves his children the far richer inheritance of a good name. During his more than 40 years residence in Wilkes-Barre his life has been blameless, and when he felt that his last hour was approaching, he expressed himself as not having a known enemy in the world. He said he had lived beyond the allotted age of man, and he was ready to depart. No man will be more sincerely mourned by those who knew him than will Mr. Metzger. During his later years he has lived in quiet retirement from business cares, though up to within a fortnight he has been well and active for a man of his advanced age.

Funeral Wednesday, May 8, at 3 p. m., under Masonic auspices, from residence of C. B. Metzger.

## AN OLD CHURCH.

History of the Ashley Presbyterian Church—The New Pastor Installed on May 3.

The installation services of Rev. Morvin Ouster, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, took place Friday night. The services were opened at 7:30 by singing of an anthem by the church choir, entitled, "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains," after which there was reading of scripture by Rev. H. H. Welles, of Kingston. This was followed by prayer by Rev. W. J. Day, of Plymouth. A hymn was then sung, when Rev. G. N. Makley, of Pleasant Valley, preached the sermon, taking for the text Exodus 29:8.

The sermon had to do with the high and holy office of the ministry as typified by Aaron and Christ. Another hymn was then sung, when Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D., of Wilkes-Barre, proceeded to propound the constitutional questions which were answered in the affirmative by both pastor and people. Rev. E. B. Webster, of Wilkes-Barre, then offered up the installation prayer, when Dr. Hodge proceeded to charge the pastor concerning the duties of the ministry. The charge was brief, yet comprehensive, and was most impressive. Rev. W. J. Day, of Plymouth, the former pastor of the church, then delivered the charge to the people. Mr. Day was peculiarly fitted for this task, having been pastor of this congregation for over 23 years, and having a most intimate knowledge of the temper and temperament of the people. The charge to the congregation was a practical exposition of their duties to the church and pastor. The services were closed with the singing of an anthem by the choir and benediction. The church was crowded and the services were listened to with close attention. Rev. S. O. Logan, D. D., of Scranton, who was to be moderator of the meeting was unable to be present.

The Ashley Presbyterian Church has a record extending back for over 50 years. It was, in its early history, a Mission Church, under the jurisdiction of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre. Services were held for many years from house to house, in barns and also in the old log school house. It was during the ministry of Rev. John Dorrance that the subject of building a church was first broached, and on the 15th day of February, 1844, a meeting was held, and Mr. Thomas Lazarus agreed to give 10,000 square feet of land to be used for church purposes *only*, and if perverted to any other use, the land to be forfeited. It

was also stipulated that "no night meetings" be held in the church. The preamble drawn up at this meeting was as follows:

"Whereas, A house of worship is much needed in the neighborhood and the members of no one denomination of Christians are sufficiently numerous to justify them in the attempt to erect a house for themselves exclusively, and

"Whereas, Experience teaches that a house, the ownership and control of which is in several religious denominations, is very liable to neglect and abuse and to become a subject of contention, and consequently an evil rather than a benefit to society;

"Therefore we, the undersigned, do agree to the following conditions as to the basis of our subscriptions:

"First, That the house shall be for the use of the Presbyterian Church and the people of the neighborhood, to be occupied by the ministers connected with the Presbytery of Luzerne or under their jurisdiction as frequently as desired by them.

"Second, When not wanted for the use of the Presbyterian Society said house may be opened in the *day time* for the preaching of the ministers in regular standing of the German Reformed, the Lutheran, the Methodist Episcopal and the Protestant Episcopal Churches with consent of trustees, in rotation.

"Third, For the protection, preservation and control of the house, under the preceding stipulation, there shall be chosen by the subscribers a board of trustees, in such manner and for such term as they please. Provided, that in these elections and in all other matters relating to said house, for the payment of every five dollars by a subscriber, he or she shall be entitled to one vote.

"On the above conditions we, the undersigned, do promise to pay to Frederick Detrick, Daniel Frederick and David Inman, (as building committee, to whom the charge and superintendance of the building, while in process of erection, shall be given,) the sums set opposite our names, respectively, at such time and in such manner as said committee shall direct."

Sixty persons signed this preamble, and the sums pledged varied from 50 cents to \$20. The total amount was \$334 50, of which \$163 was paid in work, \$89 in materials, and \$83 50 in cash. The church was finished in October, 1844, by Daniel Frederick, who is still living and who is an elder in the present church. The building was 24x30 feet, and stood where the present church now stands. This old building is yet standing, and is used for the Sunday school services. At the dedication of the old church the sum of \$10.08½ was raised, and the treasurer's

books show that of this amount \$1.40½ was spent for candles and a pair of snuffers.

Rev. W. J. Day was the first regular pastor of the church. He came to Ashley July 12, 1835, and continued in that office until Jan. 1, 1889—over 28 years. The present church edifice was completed Feb. 15, 1870, and from its members have been organized two other churches—Mountain Top and Sugar Notch. Money is being collected to build a chapel for the Sunday school.

The present pastor, Rev. Morvin Ouster, received a call early in April and moved to Ashley Thursday, April 25. He is a graduate of Princeton College and is a pleasing as well as an able preacher, and under his ministration the church is expected to make rapid strides forward.

#### The First Sunday School in Luzerne County.

In the early part of the Nineteenth Century, Mr. Milton Gordon, resident of Jacob's Plains, conceived the idea of trying to organize a Sabbath school in Laurel Run, (now Borough of Parsons). Why he should have thought of this locality is more than I am able to say. There were many more people on the Plains than in Laurel Run, and well-to-do farmers. But that is neither here nor there; he came, and, with the hearty co-operation of Mr. John Holgate and wife, did open a Sabbath school in Mr. Holgate's house. Mr. Holgate and family came from Roxbury, (Roxborough?), Philadelphia County, in the year 1812, and rented Mr. Jehoida P. Johnson's farm and grist mill. This was the only farm in this locality. Mr. Holgate had four sons and four daughters. There were a few families scattered here and there in the woods. In 1817, the school was organized. Mr. Gordon was superintendent; Mr. Holgate, Miss Sally Tyson and Mrs. Eunice Downing were the teachers at this time, 1817, as Mr. Holgate informed me years after. I remember Mr. Gordon very well. As far back as 1819 Frederick Rush lived in a log house upon the Mallory farm. Daniel Downing, Mr. Blane, Thomas Nutton, Mr. Bowton, were all the families within one mile, except Hezekiah Parsons. Holgate and family were Baptists; Mr. Gordon a Methodist; Mr. and Mrs. Parsons were Baptists; the other families made no profession; they were good citizens. After Mr. Johnson had rented his mill and farm, he removed back farther into the woods, in a log house, lived there a number of years and then went to Wilkes Barre, corner of River and Union Streets. Mr. Johnson was a son of Jacob Johnson, the first minister of the

gospel in the valley. He favored the Congregational belief. Miss Tyson was an Episcopalian. The school was organized a Union Sabbath School, and was so maintained for many, many years. The school had a wide reputation in after years as the Union Sabbath School, and in the course of time the best talent was drawn unto it. Oristus Collins, Miss Mary Bowman, Miss Nellie Jewett, Miss Margaret Jackson; later on Nathaniel Rutter, Mr. Haft, Hon. David Scott, Rev. James May, D. D., Rev. John Dorrance, D. D., Rev. George Peck, D. D. Hon. Garrick Mallory also interested himself in the school, and through the influence of the above named men, the young men of Wilkes-Barre were brought into the work.

The Sunday School was removed from Mr. Holgate's home to the log school house; after a time the log house was pulled down, and my father, Hezekiah Parsons, fitted up the Red house just over the creek from his old home, for a day school, Miss Ann Butler was the first teacher. The Sunday School followed in 1824, or thereabout. Mr. Mallory built a large barn just below Mr. Holgate's, and the school was removed to the barn. The school was not kept in cold weather. In 1826, Judge Scott, Jehoida Johnson, George Diskover, (father of our townsman, William Diskover,) and a few others, organized to build a school house. Hezekiah Parsons proposed to give the land and his proportion of the building, providing the trustees would agree that the house should be open for the Union Sunday School on the Sabbath; also that all denominations of christians should have the privilege of holding meetings, when not occupied by day school. That was agreed to, and the house was finished in 1829, and dedicated by the Union Sabbath School, Rev. James May preaching in the afternoon. I cannot give the exact date; it was, however, in September, 1829. Judge Scott often attended, preaching in the little white school house (as he always called it). Bishop Underdonk preached in the little white school house; Rev. John Dorrance, Rev. George Peck and many others; Rev. Mr. Walker, a Quaker, Rev. —, a Dunkard,—I cannot recall this man's name. This brings us up to 1833. Then the superintendent of the school was changed, and Mr. Moore, of Wilkes Barre, was elected. Mr. Moore was a layman of the M. E. Church. He had charge up to 1840, when Asher Miner was given the charge, and the school flourished as it had in the years past. Mr. Miner had charge up to his death. At this time I tried my hand. I continued to fill the place as best I could for a number of years, but my duties in another direction required so much of my time that I resigned, and, if I am not mis-



taken, Lord Butler, your townsman, followed. The changes came often from that time up to 1868. About that time the population had so increased that the little white school house became too small. The school directors bought the lot, as they wished to control the whole matter. I gave them a deed with the understanding that the Union Sunday School should have the same privileges that they had in the old house, and preaching and Sunday school was kept up for years, with Rev. I. M. Phillips superintendent. There had been regular preaching in the school house from 1836, once in two weeks, by the M. E. circuit preachers; John Barnes was the first. This did not interfere with the Sabbath, as Tuesday evening was their appointment. Father Morster preached for many years on the Sabbath and assisted in the Sabbath school. After going into the two story school house the Sunday school was kept up summer and winter, had a large library of good books, lesson papers and all the paraphernalia of a first class Sabbath school, with one hundred and twenty scholars of all denominations. This two-story house was too small in a few years to accommodate the day scholars and in 1873 a large house was built. The Union Sabbath School then fitted up the old house and occupied it until 1881. Rev. I. M. Phillips was still superintendent. The school was then removed to Buchanan and Rhoads' Hall, Samuel Park for many years was secretary, but Chester C. Rhoads librarian. As with the school house so with the hall—it was wanted for other use. The school remained in the hall some two years and was discontinued. The large library was given to the Primitive Methodist Sabbath School, with all the accompaniments. The organ cannot be accounted for.

There are two superintendents that I left out. In the year 1822 Isaac Hart and family came to Laurel Run. Mr. and Mrs. Hart took a great interest in the Sabbath school. His son, John S., was a bright boy of 10 years. Mr. Hart was soon made superintendent and his wife a teacher. John was a scholar of the Sunday school until he went to college. After graduating he was made professor in the High School, Philadelphia, and in later years professor in Princeton College, where he graduated. The other man I had forgotten was Charles Shiber, of Wilkes Barre.

May 1, 1880. There are five Sabbath schools in the borough of Parsons. M. E. have from two to three hundred scholars. The Congregational school has a hundred or more; the Primitive Methodist about the same. The Primitive Methodists are English; the Congregationalists are Welsh; the Baptists also Welsh, in whose school there

are between three and four hundred scholars. The Catholics have about the same number as the Baptist.

CALVIN PARSONS.

#### Columbia.

Of all the sea-divided shores,  
Columbia greatest stands—  
And justly she the title claims—  
The Empress of the lands.  
Her boast is not in broils and strifes—  
Peace is her chosen path,  
Her heart is bent on Freedom's cause,—  
Yet dreadful in her wrath.

Hail! Columbia.—  
Land of the true and brave,  
Our song shall be, on land and sea,  
Long may her banner wave!

Recorded are her noble deeds,  
In story and in song;  
Beneath her mighty eagle's wings,  
Shall countless thousands throng.  
Her sons shall ever bless her name,  
Obey her every call,  
And by her flag at all nobly stand,  
To conquer or to fall!

Hail! Columbia, etc.

Her lofty mountains heavenward rise,  
Her arms span tide to tide,  
Her land with bounteous blessings flows,  
And stored with wealth beside;  
Majestic roll her mighty streams—  
Her flag on land and main,  
Shall wave the proudest of them all—  
Long may Columbia reign!

Hail! Columbia, etc.

—Geo. Coronway.

#### The Bell Has a History.

The old bell of the Pittston Presbyterian Church was removed Monday and brought to Wilkes Barre. It is to be the property of the Wyoming Historical Society. It possesses a deal of historic interest, having been cast in Philadelphia in 1811 by Geo. Headerly. It was first used in the old Wilkes Barre Meeting House and has for the last 80 years called the East Side Presbyterians of Pittston to church.

The bell formerly used in the tower of the old Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre will be substituted for the veteran piece of bell metal already mentioned.

#### An Historic Vessel.

Henry C. Myers, of the U. S. Navy, an officer on the U. S. S. Kearsarge, (the vessel that sunk the Confederate cruiser Alabama in the late war), is visiting his parents on Hazle Street, this city. He has cruised around the world several times in the old Kearsarge, and when his leave of absence expires, about June 1, he will be ordered to one of the new U. S. warships.

### FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The Changes Which Have Taken Place Between Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale, as Noted by Dr. H. Hollister.

What surprising changes have been effected in the country within the last half century! How woods have been transferred into cities, how revolutionized locomotion and how distance has been annihilated! The slow stage and the drowsy packet was then known to be the only public means of transit in the country. Gilchrist, of the old Phoenix Hotel, in Wilkes-Barre, ran his daily packet down the North Branch Canal to Berwick, Bloomsburg, Catawissa, Danville and Northumberland, drawn by three horses and carrying a large number of passengers. Horton's line of stages ran over the mountain to Easton and up the lesser valley of Lackawanna as far as the mining village of Carbondale. Alexander and George Kenner, two brothers, drove the stage, one going up to Carbondale one day and returning the other. They changed horses at Hyde Park, then passed up over the Hackley Hill instead of going through the defile, where Archbald stands.

The coach did not run to Scranton because there was no settlement there but the unambitious Slocums, whose minor iron furnace was fast going to decay. Bird's hotel, at Pittston ferry, Green's hotel, in Hyde Park, Cottrill's, in Providence, Ullibrigg's, in Blakeley, and Wilbur's, at Rushdale, or Jermyon, were places for the passengers to stop and wet their whistle. The boot of the stage was generally half filled with baggage.

No doctors between Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale but Dr. Nathaniel Yiddings of Pittston Ferry, and Dr. Silas B. Robinson, of Providence, who came into the valley in 1824. This was sixteen years before Anson Curtis located in Pittston, and Dr. Benjamin H. Troop settled in Providence.

The way bill carried the names of each passenger, his destination and the amount of fare. There were no deadheads or stealing of fares. A small daily mail served the ferry people at Pittston, at Providence and at the Blakeley office.

It is interesting to note that there was but one New York daily newspaper taken in the upper valley, below Carbondale, until 1849, when Esquire Farnham, of Archbald, and Scranton, Grant & Co., subscribed for the New York daily *Tribune*. The last named firm received their mail at this time through the Providence postoffice.

Gilchrist is gone, Horton is forgotten, the Kenners and other actors of that day have disappeared, the old coach swings no longer

over the hills, the old packet with its cheerful cabin has floated into history to be run no more, while the old canal is again filled with *terra firma*. A dozen railroads carrying thousands of passengers daily come and go over the same route that in olden times transferred less than a dozen passengers. How wonderful. H. H.

He Was in the War of 1812.

[New York Times.]

A very old man, with a flowing white beard, was poked up by the police on the street at Middletown, N. Y., on the charge of being drunk. When arraigned and questioned the old man replied that his name was Dennis Sweeney, born in Ireland, and now a resident of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; his age was 92 years, having been born in 1797; that he served as a drummer boy in the war of 1812, and took part in the battle of Lundy's Lane; that he had since served thirty five years as a soldier and a marine in the United States forces; and that he was on his way to the Marine barracks, Brooklyn, in search of testimony showing that he was entitled to an increase of the pension he was already drawing as a partially disabled veteran of the Mexican war. The veteran produced honorable discharge papers and other documents to confirm his statements. The recorder discharged him with an injunction to take the first train for Brooklyn.

### Thirty-Eighth Anniversary of Her Birth.

On Wednesday, May 8, a large number of the friends of Mrs. I. W. Millham gathered at the residence, 88 Barney Street, to aid in celebrating the thirty eighth anniversary of her birth. They brought with them many tokens of remembrance, some of them quite valuable. The evening was characterized by social enjoyment and the serving of refreshments. There were present Mr. and Mrs. William Bromage, Mr. Kenney, wife and daughter Maggie, Mrs. and Mrs. Hawrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Groff, Mr. and Mrs. Gabel, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Mixon, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Groff, Mr. and Mrs. T. Hodnott, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Nier, Mr. and Mrs. G. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Hazle, Mr. Jefferson, Mrs. Fassett, Mrs. J. Sargent, Mrs. Gender, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Martin, Mr. Hagenbaugh, wife and mother, W. L. Gates, H. S. Haregood, Miss Bridget Warren and Mr. Fell.

Luzerne County Bible Society.

The seventieth anniversary of the Luzerne County Bible Society was held in the Episcopal Church Sunday night. The edifice was well filled with representatives from nearly all the churches in the city. Among the preachers present were Dr. Hodge, Rev. H. L. Jones, Dr. Phillips, Rev. S. S. Kennedy and Dr. Morrow. The meeting was opened by a half hour's devotional exercises, consisting of reading of passages from the scriptures, singing, responsive reading and prayer, conducted by Rev. H. L. Jones. In the absence of A. T. McClinton, president of the society, John Welles Hollenback occupied the chair. The report of Rev. S. S. Kennedy, the agent of the society, was then read, a synopsis of which is appended. It contains many interesting reminiscences of Mr. Kennedy's work in distributing bibles among the foreigners of the mining districts—the Hungarians, Russians, Poles and Bohemians. To those who could afford it he sold them very cheap and to those who were not so inclined he gave the bibles. In almost every case they were very much pleased to obtain a bible in their own language and could scarcely express their gratitude to the agent.

We are indebted for the noble work of scattering the good seed of this kingdom throughout this valley to the patriots and Christians of a former generation, who organized this society November 1, 1819, in the old church that stood on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. The first officers were: Ebenezer Bowman, president; William Ross, Esq., David Scott, Esq., and Captain David Hoyt, vice presidents; Dr. Edward Covell, corresponding secretary; Andrew Beaumont, recording secretary, and G. M. Hollenback, treasurer. Many of the best citizens of the vast county, as it then was, became patrons of the cause, and it is recorded that a Masonic lodge of Wilkes Barre donated \$25.

In 1828 David Scott, Esq., was chosen president; Thomas Dyer, vice president; John N. Conyngham, Esq., corresponding secretary; Ziba Bennett, recording secretary; and John D. Huff, treasurer. The society was re-organized on the 25th of August, 1836, and Rev. James May was elected president; Rev. John Dorrance, Hon. David Scott, Oristus Collins, Esq., and John N. Conyngham, Esq., vice presidents; Volney L. Maxwell, Esq., secretary; Henry C. Anheiser, treasurer; Dr. Lathan Jones, Edmund Tay-

lor and William C. Gilderaleve, executive committee.

These were all distinguished men of their times, and leaders of the people; and we record it to the honor of their memory, that they actuated their fellow citizens to circulate the bible. They all have passed away, but we inherit the monumental charity which they erected; and many of our best patrons inherit also their blood, and names, and wealth, and best of all, their Christian and philanthropic characteristics. Judge Conyngham continued in the office of president eighteen years, or until his death, and his watch-care over the society and its work was a labor of love.

During the past year I devoted five months to the work of collecting funds and distributing bibles in this county; the results, as far as can be tabulated, are as follows: Places canvassed for bible distribution, Tomhicken, Deringer, Fern Glen, Gowen, Rock Glen, Stockton, Freeland and Plymouth. Freeland is the worst whisky debauched town in the county. Families visited, 1,918; found destitute of bible, 196, destitute supplied, 56; by sale, 28; by gift, 80; which refused to accept, 78; bibles sold, 426; testaments sold, 430; bibles donated, 190; testaments donated, 178; total volumes distributed, 1,228; price of books donated, \$162.85; cash collected, \$798.82; sales of bibles, \$375 71, total, \$1,169 43; paid to treasurer, J. W. Hollenback, \$1,169.43.

ASSETS

Bibles on hand with E. J. Sturdevant	
Wilkes-Barre.....	\$197 21
Bibles on hand with Davenport Bros.,	
Plymouth.....	185 41
Bibles on hand with S. H. Kress, Nanti-	
ooke.....	94 88
Bibles on hand with W. B. Taggart, West	
Pittston.....	87 78
Bibles on hand with Fred Hiller, Hazle-	
ton.....	102 00
Bibles on hand with E. P. Morris, White	
Haven.....	83 89
Total of bibles.....	\$750 23
Book case in Wilkes-Barre.....	\$50 00
Book case in Hazleton.....	12 00
Book case in West Pittston.....	12 00
Total of book cases.....	\$ 74 00
Cash in treasury.....	819 88
Total assets.....	\$1143 59

S. S. KENNEDY,  
Agent.

May 2, 1889.

At the close of the reading of the report Dr. Taylor, Col. C. M. Conyngham and Rev. S. S. Kennedy were appointed a committee to nominate officers. While they had retired and were deliberating, Dr. Morrow, the agent of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, delivered an address of about an hour's duration. He took as the basis of his ad-

dress the progress of the bible and its influence. He said that when the Bible Society was organized in 1804, the bible had been translated into but fifty languages; now through the instrumentality of the society it is read in 240 languages and dialects. The bible is now supplied to foreigners and emigrants in all languages. At the conclusion of this address the Committee of Officers reported through Dr. L. H. Taylor, and nominated the following, who were elected: President, A. T. McClinton, Esq; Vice President, Richard Sharpe, in place of the late Judge Dana; Secretary, George S. Bennett; Treasurer, John Welles Hollenback; Managers Col. C. M. Conyngham, B. G. Carpenter, Hon. Ohas. A. Miner, H. W. Kalish, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, of Wilkes Barre; J. D. Hoyt and J. D. Cooper, of Kingston; Calvin Parsons, of Parsons, and Theodore Strong and B. D. Beyer, of Pittston. On motion of Rev. S. S. Kennedy a donation of \$100 was given Dr. Morrow from the funds in the hands of the treasurer, for the use of the Pennsylvania Society. Dr. Hodge offered prayer and pronounced the benediction and the exercises were concluded.

#### Trailing Arbutus—Easter Sunday.

A beautiful emblem, art thou of His power,  
The wisdom of God in nature's grand womb—  
Formed when the earth is apparently dormant  
Enfolded in ice where no heat can e'er come.  
In earth's alembic where God works His  
wonders,  
Thy beauty and grace were safe from the storm,  
Thy form through the piercing cold winds of  
winter  
Was shielded and nourished, and kept safe from  
harm.  
Thy fragrance excels all flowers of the tropics,  
And all the exotics they bring from Ceylon,  
Where no keen blasts of winter e'er mar their  
sweet flowers  
Or frost nips their buds in their warm island  
home.  
I saw not thy beauty in the depths of the wood-  
lands,  
Thy fragrance alone, was the guide to my touch  
And my fingers moved swiftly beneath the dead  
leaflets  
Which revealed all thy beauty in thy brown  
leafy couch.  
I clasped thee with rapture, and kissed the  
sweet floweret  
Whilst thy fragrance was balm, and thy presence  
so dear  
As one raised from the grave, a beautiful  
token  
That death is en passant and life always near.  
When remembering Him, who has risen tri-  
umphant  
It cheers the desponding in life's stormy hours—  
A conqueror now over Sin, Death and Hell,  
Thus confirming our Faith by the fragrance of  
flowers.

—Timothy Parker.

Ketcham, Pa., Easter-tide, 1889.

#### Another Old Land Mark Gone.

[Tunkhannock Democrat, May 10.]

E. Prevost has been engaged in taking down the old house on Russell Hill, the past week, known as the old Prevost homestead. It was built by Jonas Carter about the year 1804 or 5, and sold, together with the farm, to John Prevost in the year 1814 and has been in the family since that time. Then it was considered a very good house and was such for that day. It was kept as a tavern by Mr. Carter for some years and then by Mr. Prevost for a few years, after which it was abandoned as a licensed house but still entertained many distinguished guests. It was well known to such men as George and David Scott, Lawyers Denison, Graham, Malone, the Wrights, and Col. Shoemaker, Col. Wadhams and many others, of Wilkes Barre; and the Arnolds, Tuttle, Covels and such, of Elmira, N. Y.; also Dr. Huston, Col. H. Mix, Hon. D. P. Boston, M. Piolet (father of Col. Piolet) and hundreds of others, for it was just half way from Wilkes-Barre to Towanda, and a very general stopping place, and was known as the Frenchman's stopping place. The present owner has removed by taking it down and will build the present season a modern structure. These were long shingles on the roof that were put there 85 years ago, showing the durability of shingles made in those days.

#### Latitude of Wilkes-Barre.

In the *Historical Record*, volume 1, page 121, Hon. Steuben Jenkins contributed some interesting remarks on the latitude of Wilkes-Barre, as taken at various times from 1755 to 1881. He now sends the Record the following interesting letter. The observation of Mr. Wallace differs only 13 seconds from that made by the State Geological Survey in 1881:

PHILADELPHIA, 2d April, 1774.

Fort Augusta, half a mile southeast of the conflux of the east and west branches of the Susquehanna, is, by exact observation in latitude 40 degrees, 58 minutes, 33 seconds.

Fort Durkee at Wyoming in 41 degrees, 14 minutes, 27 seconds.

Buffalo Creek, in 41 degrees, 1 minute. As taken by Mr. Samuel Wallace, a gentleman of good merit and well-known to the Wyoming people, who is now going up with very accurate instruments to take the latitude 42 degrees, in order to ascertain how far north you extend; and offers the use of his instrument to any gentleman you may appoint to attend him. I am, etc.,

PHILATIA WEBSTER.

Mr. Silas Dean, Wethersfield, Conn.

**MAJOR T. FRANK PENMAN.****The New Collector of Internal Revenue—  
He was Born in Wilkes-Barre.**

Major T. Frank Penman, of Scranton, the newly appointed collector of internal revenue for this district, was born at Wilkes-Barre, November 25, 1857. He went to Scranton in 1862, was educated in the public schools, and at the Millersville Normal School. He entered the prothonotary's office immediately after the creation of Lackawanna County in 1878, and in 1880 became chief deputy in charge of the office. He was admitted to the bar in October, 1882; served as secretary of the poor board during 1882 and 1883, and is at present secretary of the park commission. He enlisted in the Thirteenth Regiment N. G. P., at its organization in 1877, and rose through all the offices from corporal to captain, and resigned to accept a commission on the Third Brigade staff as ordnance officer with the rank of major. In 1885 Major Penman was elected chairman of the Republican County Committee of Lackawanna. In 1886 and 1887 he was secretary of the committee, and in 1888 he was again elected its chairman, a position which he now occupies.

The new collector will appoint and supervise a chief deputy, cashier, two clerks, seven canvassing deputies, six gaugers, seven stamp agents, a general storekeeper and gauger and eighteen persons holding the office of storekeeper and gauger. There are 18 distilleries, 42 breweries and 280 cigar manufactories in the district.—*Truth.*

**An Old Wilkes-Barrean Dead.**

The Wyalusing *Rocket* reports the death on June 1 of Dr. D. C. Scoville, who practiced medicine in Wilkes-Barre 52 years ago. The doctor was drowned while fishing in a mill pond. Dr. Scoville was born at Bennington, Vermont, May 16, 1814. He commenced the study of medicine in 1834, at Montrose, and afterwards attended Berkshire College, in Massachusetts. He began to practice medicine in Wilkes-Barre in the spring of 1837, and in the fall of the same year, after a short residence in Camptown, removed to Wyalusing, where he has since resided. In 1841, Dr. Scoville was married to Ellen, daughter of John Stafford, and for forty-five years enjoyed a happy married life, being preceded to the grave about one year and a half by his wife. To them were born two daughters—Mrs. Manford Stevens and Mrs. I. M. Allis—and one son, Henry Clay Scoville, who died four or five years ago.

**Formerly a Luzerne County Resident.**

Died at Eaton Rapids, Mich., June 13, Ellen, wife of Nathan Harrison, and daughter of the late Samuel Koons. Mrs. Harrison was the stepmother of Mrs. Dr. Bowman, of this city, and her father, Mr. Koons, was a well known resident of Plymouth. Mrs. Harrison was interred at White Oak, Mich., on June 16th. The many friends of Mr. Harrison extend to him their heartfelt sympathy in his bereavement.

**A Venerable Colored Man Dead.**

Oliver Downey, employed by Hon. Charles A. Miner, for 24 years as coachman, died Sunday, June 16, at 1 o'clock, aged 79 years. He resided at 169 South Canal Street, from which place he will be buried on Tuesday at 2 p. m. Mr. Downey was a fugitive from slavery at the close of the war, coming here with his brother, Thomas, who has been in the service of A. T. McClintock. Mr. Downey is survived by a widow and three children—Ellsworth W., Ida and Mary, all residing at home.

**New Memorial Windows.**

St. Stephen's has lately been beautified by the addition of two costly memorial windows. One is in memory of the late Volney Lee Maxwell, for many years a communicant and vestryman of the parish, born 1804, died 1872. The centre is a cross entwined with a vine bearing clusters of purple grapes. The cross bears the legend "Simply to thy cross I cling." The colors are rich and harmonious and a beautiful effect is produced by the use of crinkled glass in discs, squares and other plain figures. Over all is the Greek monogram for Christ. The window occupies the centre of the southern exposure.

Next it is the memorial to the late Miles MacAlester, already described in the Record, and next is the memorial to Mrs. Jane Leavenworth McCulloch. The latter is an entirely new one. The one set up in the church a few weeks ago did not entirely please the family and it has been replaced by one that is admitted by all to be an exquisite piece of work. Like the first it has for a centre the favorite flowers of Mrs. McCulloch—daisies and golden rod—but the new ones are natural, while the first were not. The effect is beautiful in the extreme. The McCulloch, the MacAlester and the Maxwell windows are all of entirely different types and furnish most pleasing contrast.

A Conyngham memorial will shortly adorn the window at the front and for the centre window on the north exposure Judge Harding's sons, John and Harry, have ordered a memorial for their mother.

**George Root.**

Except to Col. Dorrance, Wesley Johnson, Dilton Yarrington and very few others, I doubt whether the name at the head of this short article, will have much familiarity. Yet, in his line, Geo. Root was famous. But, as we all know, local distinction is generally of short life.

This noted reinsman was short in stature, slim in build, reserved in manner and slow in speech. Possibly his geographical knowledge was confined to the region lying between Bill Soxe's and the Wyoming Valley. I never heard of his traveling further. His habits were good; and faithfulness in discharge of most responsible duties demanded the commendation he universally received. Considering how often I committed to his hands both life and limb, I always feel constrained to mention his name with proper reverence. As well that of his associate on the pike, Jefferson Swainbank.

Daily, for some hours before sunrise, with four horses and Troy coach, George left the stables of Miller Horton at Careytown and drove to the hotel, (whose name it was a sin to change,) the time honored Phoenix. The way bill was put in his hands, and he put it in his hat. Then, when the passengers were collected from various parts of the town, at three in the morning, the start was made. It was a long, tedious pull to the top of the five mile mountain, and buffalo robes not having been invented at so early a period, the ride was chilly. But the cup of hot coffee at old Buck's, (subsequently Terwilliger's) thawed out the frost.

As I look back upon it, the wonder rises, how the Shades Hill, Bearcreek Hill, the Pocono slope and divers other precipitous declivities, could be passed at full trot and no necks broken.

For, in the days of Geo. Root the friction brake had not been conjured out. Yet with the reins in the hands of this veteran of the road, no one felt the least apprehension. And the most exhilarating of all known things was a seat on the box at his side, plunging down these steep declivities. Once I went down the Pocono on the box with the driver, fast asleep. That was permissible after being shaken out of bed, at two o'clock in the morning.

And another thing to shock the sensibilities of modern times. These rides in the keen mountain atmosphere, were in the days when the overshoe, the arctic, the fur muffler, the galoches and divers other ministers of comfort, had not come to pass.

Through what advancing tides the world has moved in but a few generations! What is there set in the hereafter to supersede the might of electric currents and heated vapor?

Yet a charm lingers in the octogenarian's heart, musing upon the past, and I seem to crave once more the school boy's exultation to hear at sunset the bugle note of George Root, laden with news from all nations, as it used to peal forth on "Nigger Hill."  
Doylestown, 1889. C. E. WRIGHT.

**Forty-Three Shawanese Words.**

The Harrisburg *Telegraph*, in its historical column, printed a list of Shawanese words, written on a very old sheet of paper in the handwriting of Judge Jasper Yeates, of Lancaster, and found among his papers some years ago. It was evidently compiled by Judge Yeates when commissioner at the treaty at Fort Pitt in 1776. Among the Indians present were a number of Shawanese, and the following list of forty-three Shawanese words and their English meaning will prove interesting:

A horse.....	Maehlaway.
A knife.....	Monethe.
An awl or fork.....	Maquenthey.
A tree.....	Tosque.
A young girl.....	Squethetha.
A great man.....	Itokomah.
An Indian Man.....	Linne.
A squaw.....	Quiwan.
A boy.....	Skillowaythetha.
A child.....	Oppoleutka.
A mirror.....	Nonochtaw.
A blanket.....	Quewan.
A hat.....	Pitakoh.
A Tomahawk.....	Tehawgah.
Rum.....	Wethickepe.
A shirt.....	Petenekaw.
Moccasins.....	Mockitou.
A gun.....	Mataquah.
A scalp.....	Wesey.
A table or saddle.....	Papewau.
A spoon.....	Emquawh.
Englishmen.....	Metnuscheaw.
A sword.....	Monethe.
God.....	Weso Monetan.
The sun.....	Keopque.
The moon.....	Tepequikeeshaw.
Rain.....	Kemawani.
Snow.....	Kune.
Water.....	Nepe.
A river.....	Thepique.
A crook.....	Chikethepiqua.
A canoe.....	Locashey.
A wigwam.....	Wigwam.
A flesh.....	Ametha.
A buck.....	Eapey.
A doe.....	Nooskata.
Skins.....	Thiaka.
Powder.....	Mawkate.
Lead.....	Lewley.
Flints.....	Sawaugh.
A pipe.....	Quaquah.
Tobacco.....	Themaw.
A treaty.....	Itakhe-man.

**DEATH OF A PIONEER'S DAUGHTER.**

**Mrs. Julia Anna Blackman Plumb Passes Away at the Age of 83—Some of the Trying Hardships of Pioneer Life.**

Julia Anna Blackman Plumb died on June 20, at the residence of her son, H. B. Plumb, Esq., in Plumbtown, at the advanced age of 83 years. She passed peacefully and painlessly away, in full possession of her faculties up to the last. With the exception of a slight cold she was in her usual health and death was due to the infirmities of advancing age. Funeral at 2 p. m. on Tuesday, interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

She was probably the last survivor of the second generation of the pioneers who participated in the battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778. About seven years ago she became blind, an affliction that was severely felt by her, she having been a great reader. She had also become deaf. Otherwise her declining years have been marked with a degree of health and vigor not common to such advanced age. She was possessed of those sterling traits of character which ennoble our human nature and which made her life a benediction to all with whom she was thrown in contact. Her religious faith was after the teachings of the Swedenborgian Church. For many years she has made her home with her son, who has ministered to her every want with the most tender and devoted parental solicitude.

Mrs. Plumb was in the sixth generation from John Blackman, who was in Dorchester, Mass., now Boston, in 1640. He had eight children.

Second generation—Joseph Blackman, 1661—1720. He had five children.

Third generation—Elisha, born 1700. He had four children.

Fourth generation—Elisha, 1727-1804. Had five children.

Fifth generation—Elisha, 1760-1845. Had ten children.

Sixth generation—The subject of this sketch, who was the ninth child.

Seventh generation—H. B. Plumb, of Hanover Township.

Eighth generation—George H. R. Plumb, Esq., now of Duluth.

She was the daughter of Elisha Blackman and Anna Hurlbut, of Hanover Township, Luzerne Co., and was born on the same farm where she passed her entire life, April 25, 1806. She was married to Charles Plumb Dec. 21, 1828, he dying three years later. The only child was Henry Blackman Plumb, the local historian and member of the Luzerne Bar, who survives. Her father was deeply attached to her, she being the youngest daughter, and she never left the parental roof. Upon her mother's death she assumed the entire care of her father's household, a

duty far more arduous than falls to women nowadays. Her father was an extensive farmer and nearly everything with the exception of tea, coffee and sugar was raised upon the home lands. The round of exacting duty embraced spinning, weaving, dairying butter and cheese, wool raising, bee culture, flax raising, the care of harvest hands and numerous other domestic duties quite unknown to the generation now growing up. Her father died December 5, 1845, at the age of 80, her mother January 26, 1836, at the of 65.

Her father was Elisha Blackman, born April 4, 1760, in Lebanon, Conn. He came here with his father, Elisha Blackman, in 1772, and participated in the battle of July 3, 1778, he being one of the fortunate few who escaped. He was a member of Capt. Bidlack's company, from lower Wilkes-Barre, out of whose 32 men only eight escaped. After the repulse he succeeded in making his way to the Susquehanna River, which he attempted to swim. His efforts were noticed by a savage along the bank who fired a flintlock musket at him, but fortunately without effect. He succeeded in reaching the Monoconock Island, where he secreted himself in the bushes. He was an eye witness to the killing of Philip Weeks, who had also sought to escape to the river, but was induced by a savage to return to shore on a promise that his life should be spared. It is needless to say that the promise was shamefully and instantly violated and Weeks was killed and scalped. The Blackman boy—for he was a lad of only 18—lay concealed until darkness had covered the earth for several hours, when about midnight he took advantage of the dead silence and returned to the west side of the river and made his way to Forty Fort, in which such of the frightened settlers as had not fled towards Connecticut had taken refuge. About the same time another refugee came to the fort—Daniel McMullen, who was entirely naked, he having thrown aside his clothing when he took to the river. The next morning (July 4, 1778,) these two men objected to the proposed capitulation of the fort and rather than fall into the hands of the British and Indians as prisoners they took advantage of the opening of the gates to admit some cattle and fled, reaching Wilkes-Barre fort in safety. This fort was already abandoned, Dr. Wm. Hooker Smith and the aged men composing the local military company—the Reformadoes—having gone to the Five Mile Mountain as an escort for the women and children who were fleeing towards the Pocono on their way to their old homes in Connecticut. The only man in Wilkes-Barre fort was young Blackman's father. The family home was in South Wilkes-Barre near where the late Judge Dana's residence stands. Hastily concealing

such family valuables as could be buried they got the cattle together and drove them towards the lower end of the valley, away from the Indians, where the oxen were found in safety several months later. They fled down the river, then up Nescopeck Creek, and succeeded in crossing the Nescopeck Mountain to Stroudsburg, where they overtook the main body of the fugitives who had gone by the way of the Shades of Death and Pocono Mountain. When Capt. Spalding's company returned to the desolated valley in August to bury the dead, young Blackman accompanied and assisted in that melancholy duty. He then gathered such of his father's crops as had escaped the malignity of the Tories and Indians. His father returned in November and the crops harvested by the son found ready purchasers in the troops who were stationed in the valley. Father and son then returned to Connecticut, winter now drawing on, and the son enlisted in the Revolutionary Army. He served a year in the New York lake region, and then returned to Lebanon, Conn. In 1786 he returned to Wilkes-Barre with his two brothers, Ichabod and Eleazer. In 1787 his father came, and took the oath of allegiance to Pennsylvania before Timothy Pickering.

The son married in January, 1788, Anna Hurlbut, daughter of Deacon John Hurlbut, of Hanover, and in 1791 removed to Hanover and settled on the land where the family have ever since lived. He cleared up a tract of land, built a house and planted an orchard. This was between the middle and the back road. It was probably the only clearing on the southeast side from Newport to Wilkes-Barre. Rufus Bennett came about the same time.

#### Burial of Mrs. Plumb.

The burial of the late Mrs. Julia Anna Plumb took place Tuesday afternoon from the residence of her son, H. B. Plumb, Esq., in Hanover Township. Rev. J. K. Peck was the officiating clergyman, and the pall bearers were these neighbors: Messrs. Metcalf, Taylor, Harrison, Reinhammer, Albert and Edwards. Mr. Peck's address was pronounced an excellent one, being both religious and historical. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Lizzie Dixon is Dead.

Miss Elizabeth Dixon, one of the oldest residents of this city, died at her residence, 94 South Washington Street, Friday July 12, at 2 o'clock. Miss Dixon was well-known to the older people of Wilkes-Barre, and was not far from 70 years of age. She has lived in the quiet retirement of her little home for many years with an adopted daughter, to whom she was warmly attached. It was an uncle of hers—Robert Dixon—who met a cruel death

in the summer of 1814. He had enlisted in the regular army here, the war with Great Britain made it necessary to call for volunteers, and being unable to travel was beaten to death by a brutal officer who had no mercy upon the sick man. The *Wilkes-Barre Advertiser* of August 12, 1814, thus briefly disposes of the tragic incident, though the full details were printed in the *Record* a year or so ago. [See *Historical Record*, vol. 2, page 92.]

**DIED.**—At Bear Creek, Robert Dixon, a soldier in the service of the U. S., in consequence of wounds received from Sergeant Brack.

#### A RAILROAD CONTRACTOR.

**The Death of Owen L. Hughes Recalls Several Large Railroad Contracts which He had Fulfilled.**

Owen L. Hughes, who for many years was one of the largest mining and railroad contractors of the country, died of epilepsy at his brother's, Henry L. Hughes, at Hunlock's Creek, July 10, aged 72 years.

The funeral services were held on Saturday in this city, from 2 Richard Street, the residence of his son, Thomas. Rev. R. B. Webster officiated.

Mr. Hughes came to the United States from Llanarchymedd, Anglesea, Wales, in 1848, and settled in Pittston. He was an inside foreman for the late Samuel Benedict, who at that time owned a colliery near the L. & B. Junction.

From the management he contracted for portions of the North Branch Canal. After the construction of the canal, he built the Pennsylvania Coal Co. Gravity R. R. from Pittston to Hawley, and following this several heavy sections of the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R. The L. V. R. R. was also partly constructed by him, as also heavy contracts on the L. & S. R. R. He then entered into partnership with his brother, John L. Hughes, of Hawleyville, Connecticut, where the contract for the making of the Shepaug R. R. was followed by heavy contracts on the Naugatuck, Housatonic, New England and other railroads. He resided in this city and built himself a handsome brick residence on Northampton Street, now occupied by W. T. Smyth. He was the first owner of the celebrated Red Ash Colliery, which he opened in a small way, and afterwards sold out to Senator Morgan B. Williams. He was a man of good judgment and amassed a large fortune, but owing to his good-natured habits, it vanished in his declining years.

He had seven children, five of whom survive him, three sons and four daughters. Mrs. W. T. Smyth, now deceased, and these living; Mrs. Joseph Weir, of Omaha, Neb.; Mrs. Phoebe Roberts, of Au-



denried; John Hughes, overseer of the Penn Haven new branch of railroad; Thomas Hughes, of Wilkes-Barre, and Lewis Hughes, of Massachusetts.

Three brothers also survive: Thomas L. Hughes, farmer, of Exeter Township; John L. Hughes, contractor, of Hawleyville, Conn., and Henry L. Hughes, farmer, of Hunlock's Creek. Mrs. Meshach Hughes, who formerly resided in Wilkes-Barre, but died in Anglesea, Wales, a year ago, was a sister. Mrs. John E. Hunter, of this city, is his niece.

His first wife was Mrs. Ann Evans, a native of Merthyr, Wales, who died several years ago and was buried in Hollenbeck Cemetery.

Mr. Hughes was particularly fond of choral singing, and many times expressed a desire to have a Welsh anthem sung at his funeral.

#### The Late Alexander McLean.

Alexander McLean, who had been a resident of Wilkes-Barre for over thirty years, died in Danville June 21, at the age of 68 years. Mr. McLean was born in Kilmarnock, Isle of Mull, March 3, 1831, and when he was a child his parents left Scotland and moved to Pictou, Nova Scotia. At the age of 18 he came to the United States, locating at Minersville, Schuylkill County. In 1854 he came to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in and successfully established the Eagle Iron Foundry on Main Street above Union, along the old canal bed. At the close of the war the plant was sold to the Dickson Manufacturing Co., and combined with their works on Canal Street. The following year Mr. McLean moved to Chattanooga, Tenn., and invested largely in iron manufacture. The venture proved a financial failure, and he returned North a disappointed man. After his return he worked at the machinist trade until three years ago, when he was disabled by an apoplectic attack, brought on, doubtless, by grieving over his past misfortune and by the death of his only daughter, Bessie, which had just then occurred. In January last he had another attack, which completely undermined his reason, and made it necessary the following April to remove him to the State Hospital at Danville.

He is survived by his widow and three sons—Allan B., of Scranton; Howard K., of Wilkes-Barre, and Charles, living in Kentucky. Mr. McLean was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, a good citizen, an affectionate husband and father, and he will leave his family the heritage of an untarnished name.

—James Ely Ball, formerly of Luzerne County, died in Honesdale, June 25. He was born in New Jersey in 1806, and moved to Lehman, Luzerne Co., in 1839. Ten years

later he removed to Wayne County, where he resided until his death.

#### Death of Captain Cooke.

Miller H. Cooke was called to Washington June 26, by a telegram informing him of the death of his father, Captain William L. Cooke. Death was due to rheumatism of the heart, and came at the age of 74 years and 1 week. Mr. Cooke was an old-time boat captain, he having run a canal packet between Wilkes-Barre and Northumberland. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Miller Horton, they having one son, Miller H., of this city. His second wife survives him and was Adella Van Horn, of Hunlock, sister of A. H. Van Horn, of this city. Funeral at Northumberland on Thursday, at 2.

#### A Hale Octogenarian Farmer.

Timothy Parker, the poet-farmer, was in town June 26, and was receiving congratulations on all hands for the neat verses from his pen that have been appearing from time to time in the Record. Mr. Parker is in his 82d year, but he is as hale as any man of 60 in Luzerne County. He thinks nothing of clearing underbrush or building stone wall, and he says he never in his life enjoyed such vigor as that with which he is now blessed. He has a farm of 55 acres near Ketcham, and has a tenant with whom he makes his home. In view of certain disappointing financial ventures Mr. Parker is fortunate in being blessed with a cheerful mind and a contented spirit. The trees, the flowers and the singing birds are his closest companions. He is a worshipper at nature's shrine, but not a pantheistic one, for the Christian faith is an essential part of his being, and he is fond of looking through nature up to nature's God.

#### Early Susquehanna Shad Fisheries.

The following interesting memorandum has been furnished the Record by John W. Jordan, of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania:

Shad fishing on the upper North Branch of the Susquehanna. From the dairy of the Moravian Indian Mission at Friedenshuetten (near Wyalusing) the following items have been taken:

1767, May 28.—Our fishermen caught 500 shad.

1768, May 18.—Over 2,000 shad caught, which filled eight canoes.

1770, May 16.—Upwards of 1,200 shad secured.

1778, May 16.—Caught 700 shad.

When was the last catch of shad made in the same locality? JOHN W. JORDAN.

## WYOMING'S HISTORIC SPOT.

### EXERCISES AT THE FOOT OF THE MONUMENT.

#### 111TH ANNIVERSARY

Of the Battle and Massacre at Wyoming—

A Large Number of Old Settlers Present

—Address by State Librarian Egle—Ode by

Amos Sisty—Other Speeches.

The Spartan band of old settlers, who have pledged themselves to meet at the foot of Wyoming Monument every 3d of July so long as any of them live, were rewarded by an unusually large throng Wednesday. The day was lowery and at times moistened with showers, but none fell during the exercises.

The monument was decorated with flags, and at its base were pots of beautiful flowers. The visitors seated themselves in the shade of the thrifty trees, and the participants in the exercises sat on steps leading up to the monument's base.

The exercises began a little after 3 o'clock, handsome programs in red, white and blue, with picture of the monument and a descriptive sketch, being distributed. The venerable president of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, Col. Charles Dorrance, presided, though he did not feel very well and asked Hon. Steuben Jenkins, first vice president, to occupy the chair during the latter half of the exercises.

The Wyoming cornet band furnished instrumental music and the singing of patriotic hymns was congregational, led by Calvin Parsons and Mr. Jenkins. Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D., made the opening prayer.

Col. Dorrance said he had no formal address to make. He had been sick for a week and was thankful to be able to attend. He had listened to the tales of the battle as recounted by the survivors and had been thrilled by the story, but he had not strength or voice, he said, to talk. The heat of to-day was nothing, he said, to that on the day of and after the battle. When the troops came to Wyoming in the following August to bury the dead they found the bodies, not decayed, but dried and shriveled to skin and bone. Col. Dorrance spoke with much feeling.

At this point was to be sung to the tune of "Herald," an ode written by Amos Sisty for the monumental dinner in Kingston, June 24, 1841. No one was prepared, however, to venture on "Herald" and the singing was dis-

pensed with. Philip Myers, of New York, a descendant of the pioneer Myers family, was invited to read the ode, he doing so with good effect. This is the ode:

Sacred ground—where we are meeting,  
Here the martyred patriot stood;  
Friends and kindred give their greeting,  
Where their fathers gave their blood,  
When the foe man  
Came like spring-time's rushing flood.

Fathers, Mothers, Sons and Daughters,  
Suffered in that furious fray,  
And the Susquehanna's waters  
Reddened with their blood that day,  
Well remembered,  
By our sires with thin locks gray.

Now the vale is sweetly ahning:  
Summer in her verdant green  
Round us every grace is twining,  
Making glad the solemn scene;  
Happy voices  
Blend beneath fair Flora's screen.

And if ever, in our valley,  
Foes should dare the Freeman's fight,  
Here shall be the Soldier's rally,  
Sunny morn, or stormy night:  
God of Battles,  
Ever guard and shield the right!

Then followed the address of the day by Dr. W. H. Egle, State librarian of Pennsylvania. Dr. Egle did not tread the beaten path usually followed on these occasions, but devoted his paper to the first massacre of Wyoming, that of 1768, the causes which led up to it and the responsibility for it. The paper was valuable as being from the Pennamite side rather than from the Yankee point of view. The following is a full report of Dr. Egle's address:

This day and hour, and yonder monument, recall to mind the awful tragedy of 1778. Of the dreadful destruction which then swept over Wyoming, it is not my province at this time to enter upon. Neither is it my intention to take the part of either Connecticut or Pennsylvania in the great controversy which ensued, upon the claims the former set up, and which for one-third of a century brought strife and bloodshed, where peace and harmony should have reigned. Others more familiar with the events of that sad July day have given the world its history, and there is no more tearful story of woe and of desolation, than that which then befel this beautiful valley.

A prior incident, however, in the history of Wyoming claims our attention for a few brief moments to-day, and it is well to carefully look over the records of the past, now and then, to correct errors in the light of new facts—and smooth over the rough outlines of set tradition.

In the latter part of the year 1762 and the early spring of 1763, some twenty families

from Connecticut settled upon lands claimed by the Susquehanna Company of that Colony. We are not here to inquire by what right these settlers came. Their New-found-land was one of peace. Their first summer had been one of prosperity—the crops promised an abundant yield—and the enterprising backwoodsmen looked forward to a season of quiet happiness.

“Not full the measure of domestic peace  
To them, the forests turning into fields;  
Not theirs from boding fears to find release,  
Or sleep the sleep for which fatigue appeals:  
Their sweating labor winning slow increase  
Of promis'd store the furrow'd soil reveals;  
For, night by night, the settler's fireside group  
May, ringing in their ears, wake to the prowlers'  
whoop.

“From mountain slope, or copse, or reedy sedge,  
From hazle clump or alder's covering shade,  
With reeking knife, and ire of keener edge,  
And willing hand to drive the piercing blade;  
And glittering eyes that bitter deeds presage,  
Garish in pomp of rudest taste display'd,  
The Iroquois with hellish hate imbued,  
Would glut on helpless babes, his savage thirst  
for blood.

“Who yet with the authentic pen has shed  
The light of truth historic on this race!  
Grim Torture's sons!—wielding the hatchet red,  
Firing the splints thrust into breast and face:  
stripping with gory blade the captive's head,  
Of that fair crown a Maker put in place.  
For lengthen'd ages, but one Nero sprung;  
These, each and all alike, spare neither old nor  
young.”

The Six Nation Indians, always treacherously inclined, made serious complaints to the Provincial authorities of Pennsylvania regarding the Connecticut people for having settled upon land *which had not been purchased from them*. At first little notice was taken of the matter, but again and again, the complaints were repeated. In obedience thereto, and to conciliate the Indians, Gov. Hamilton issued a proclamation which reads as follows:

“A PROCLAMATION.—Whereas, divers Persons, the natural born subjects of His Majesty, belonging to some of the Neighboring Colonies have, without any License or Grant from the Honourable the Proprietaries of this Province, or Authority from this Government, made several Attempts, in Bodies, to possess themselves of & settle upon a large Tract of Land within the limits of this Province, not yet purchased from the Indians, lying at and between Wyoming, on the River Susquehanna, and Cushietunck, on the River Delaware and in the upper parts of Northampton County; and have also endeavored to persuade and inveigle many of the inhabitants of this and the neighboring Provinces to confederate and join with them in such their illegal and dangerous Designs, and to assist in settling & holding the said

Lands by strong hands; And Whereas, the Delawares and other Tribes of Indians who reside within that Tract of Country between Wyoming and Cushietunck, and also the Six Nation Indians, have, as well at public Treaties as at divers other Times, repeatedly made Complaints and Remonstrances to me against the said Practices and Attempts & in the most earnest manner requested & insisted that the said Intruders should be removed by the Government to which they belonged, or by me, & declared if this was not done the Indians would come & remove them by Force, and do themselves Justice; but desired that the said Intruders might be previously acquainted therewith, that they might not pretend Ignorance; and Whereas, notwithstanding I have already issued two Proclamations, viz: the first dated in February 1761, and the second dated the 16th day of September following, to apprise the said Intruders of their danger, and to forbid their settling on the said Lands, and strictly enjoining & requiring in His Majesty's Name, all those who had presumed to settle on any part thereof, immediately to depart & move away from the same; yet I have lately received Information and fresh Complaints from the said Indians that divers Persons in contempt of such my several Proclamations, and the Threats of the Indians, do still persist in their said Design, and are now actually settling on divers parts of the said Lands about Wyoming and Cushietunck.

“Wherefore, as well to continue my endeavors to preserve the Peace and Friendship which is now so happily restored and subsisting between us and the Indians, and to prevent the mischievous and terrible Consequences of their carrying into execution such their Threats, from which I am greatly apprehensive the Indians cannot any longer be restrained, if the said Intruders shall not immediately relinquish their Designs of settling the said Lands, as also again to warn any of the inhabitants of this Province from being unwarily drawn in to join the said Intruders in such their unjust designs of making Settlements in the said Indian Country, I have judged it proper, before any Force shall be used against the said Intruders, by and with the advice of this Council, to issue this my Third Proclamation, hereby again strictly enjoining & requiring in His Majesty's Name all and every person and persons already settled and residing on the said Lands (Indians excepted,) immediately to depart and move away from the same. And do hereby forbid all His Majesty's Subjects of this or any other Province or Colony on any pretence whatsoever, to intrude upon, settle or possess any of the said Lands, or any other Lands within the Limits of this Province not yet purchased of the Indians, as they will answer the contrary at their Peril, and on

pain of being immediately prosecuted with the utmost Rigour of the Law. And hereby also restricting charging, enjoining & requiring all Sheriffs, Magistrates, Peace Officers, and all others His Majesty's Hege people within this Province, to exert themselves and use their utmost Endeavors to prosecute and bring to Justice & condign Punishment, all Offenders in the Premises.

“(Signed) JAMES HAMILTON.”

It is true that his Excellency, two years before, when the lands in Wyoming were being surveyed, issued the said Proclamations, yet these were probably not placed in possession of the members of the Connecticut Susquehanna Company. The authorities of Northampton County notified the settlers, by direction of the Governor, at that time, who answered—“that they claimed under the Connecticut government and an Indian purchase, and that they would hold their lands until it was decided by the highest authority in whom the true title was vested.”

Gov. Hamilton represented the case to the Governor of Connecticut as well as to Sir William Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendent of Indian Affairs. We hear nothing further until the Lancaster Conference with the six nation Indians in August 1762, when the Governor alluded to the Indian sale of lands at Wyoming. In reply, Thomas King, an Oneida chief, “without consulting any of the other chiefs,” so reads the record, “rose up and spoke:”

“Brother: It is very well known that the Land was sold by the Six Nations; some are here now that sold that Land; it was sold for Two Thousand Dollars, but it was not sold by our Consent in public Council; *it was as if were stolen from us.* Some people said that my name was to it, on which I went down immediately to Connecticut to see whether it was or not, and found it was not; I brought a paper back from Connecticut, which I shall show to the Governor. Had I not gone down to Connecticut, the Lands would have been all settled up to Wyoming as far as Awicka, Twelve miles on this side of Chenango.”

Almost a year elapsed before the Governor issued the Proclamation just read in your hearing, and it is doubted if he would even then have issued it had not the pressure of the Quaker Assembly been brought to bear, and he was thus compelled to do that which he did not believe was proper under the circumstances, namely, the adjustment by Sir William Johnson to whom the whole subject had been properly referred. This was followed up the month following by voluminous instructions to Col. James Burd, commanding the Provincial forces at Fort Augusta (Sunbury) and Thomas McKee, a well known and influential Indian trader on the Susquehanna. Here they are:

“I have lately received Intelligence with

fresh Complaints from the Indians at Wyoming, that the Connecticut people still persist in prosecuting their Scheme of settling the Lands about Wyoming, and at & about Cushietunok; And with the advice of the Council, I have thought it proper to issue a third Proclamation on that occasion, & to desire that you will immediately take a Journey to Wyoming, with such assistance as you shall judge proper to take along with you, and use your best endeavours to persuade or drive away all the White People that you shall find settled, or about to settle there, or on any Lands not yet purchased from the Indians.

“Before you show yourself amongst them, you will gain all the Information and Light you can into their Designs, what their numbers are, & learn the names of as many as you can; where settled, or about to settle; What numbers (and from whence) they expect to join them.

“On your arrival amongst them, you will convene the heads of them, & after reading the Proclamation, expostulate with them about the Injustice, Absurdity and Danger of their attempting to settle there, and let them know that I expect and require of them by you, that they shall all immediately Depart and quit their Settlements and if they shall agree to go away peaceably, You will then after their departure, see all their Buildings and Improvements destroyed; and in case they refuse to comply, You will then acquaint them that they may rest assured that besides the danger that they may be in from the resentment of the Indians, this Government will never permit them to continue there; and that therefore it would be most advisable for them to return peaceably to their own Country, & desist entirely from their design of making any more Settlements there.

“If you find these Expostulations and persuasive means shall not succeed, & that you can do it without danger of Resistance from a Superior Force, & risque of Bloodshed (which by no means hazard) I would have you, either by Stratagem or Force, to get three or four of the ring leaders, or others of them, apprehended and carried to the Goal at Lancaster, sending with them a proper force & Mitimus under your hands & Seals, their to wait my further Orders.

“And if that cannot be done, you will endeavour to get the names of as many of them as you can, in order that they may be prosecuted at Law, and further measures taken with them, as shall at your Return be judged most proper. For this end I have armed you with a special Commission, constituting you Magistrates of the Counties of Northampton, Berks and Lancaster, but I imagine, the Lands where they are settling must be in Northampton County.

“You will please keep a Journal of your proceedings, and on your return report the

same to me in writing under your hands, with an Account of your Expenses, that orders may be given for the discharge thereof."

As mentioned with reference to the former proclamations, it is doubtful if any of the settlers saw or heard of the official document of the Governor, in as much as it is not upon record that Col. Burd or Mr. McKee, ever went upon their errand in obedience to their instructions. Just here, let me say, that Mr. Miner, who follows Mr. Chapman, makes a statement which is far from correct. It was that Colonel James Boyd on being "ordered by Governor Hamilton to repair to Wyoming found the Valley abandoned by the Indians, who had scalped those they had killed and carried away their captives and plunder. The bodies of the slain lay strewed upon the field and Colonel Boyd having caused them to be decently interred, withdrew with his detachment down the river." The facts are that Colonel James Burd, who is undoubtedly the person alluded to as Colonel James Boyd did not reach Wyoming prior to the terrible calamity which befel the Connecticut settlers during the autumn of that year.

As previously stated it was the Six Nation Indians who made complaint—not the Delawares. These finding their complaints unheeded, determined, as is the case generally with desperate characters, to take the matter into their own hands. The marauding party had made their way down the West Branch of the Susquehanna River some distance from the fort at Shamokin, unperceived, where the Provincial troops were guarding the frontiers, and crossing the river at the mouth of the Juniata near Clark's Ferry, moved east until they reached the lovely Kittatinny Valley through the Gap in the North Mountain at Manada Creek. Here they committed many murders, destroyed much property, secured a large number of scalps, and then quickly escaped through the Tollheo, now the Indian-town Gap, thus eluding the vigilance of the scouts ranging along the base of the mountain, until they found their way into the Wyoming Valley. Here the Connecticut settlers were quietly and peaceably pursuing their avocations. In an unguarded hour most of the inhabitants lost their lives or were taken into captivity, while their cabins and stock were committed to the flames.

A thrilling narrative of this bloody affair (the first massacre in the Valley) was published by one of the survivors, after his escape from captivity, and neither at that time or at any other period until the first historian began to make up the history of this locality, was there even an intimation that this tragedy was inaugurated, plotted, or even approved of by the Pennsylvania authorities. The infamous transaction was conceived, planned, and carried out by those infernal red savages from New York, the Cayugas and

Oneidas. The Delawares and Shawanese, especially the latter, with all their intrigue, treachery and blood-thirstiness, would gladly have been the willing instruments, in this indiscriminate slaughter, if but "the sign" had been given. The "untutored savage" of America has left many a bloody page upon our history, and I have no "sentimentalism" for him. From the massacre of Commissary Osset's Colony on the Delaware in 1681 until the last Indian war-whoop upon the waters of the Allegheny in 1791, the aborigine has written his name in blood-hIDEOUS characters never to be effaced upon the history of our state.

At this crisis, Col. John Elder, the revered minister of Paxtang and Derry, who held a commission in the Provincial service, and commanded a battalion of Rangers east of the Susquehanna between the North and South Mountains, although he had previously requested permission, which was refused by the proprietary governor, to send a body of scouts into the Indian country, the deadly work of the savages in his own neighborhood left no alternative at this time, and he pushed forward a force of eighty soldiers and volunteers, under command of Major Asher Clayton, in hot pursuit of the fugitives. Fleet of foot they were, but the red demons of the forest were far upon their retreat northward. From their situation at Fort Hunter on the Susquehanna, five miles above Harrisburg, the company of Rangers made rapid way along the eastern shore of the Susquehanna to Fort Augusta, which they reached on the 13th of October, hoping to head off the Indians who it seems had entered the Wyoming Valley just two days before their arrival. In the language of one of Wyoming's poets, elsewhere quoted [Caleb E. Wright]:

"The housewife o'er her task is bent,  
The artless children all at play;  
When through the door in fierce array  
Rushes the hideous visitant:—  
Wolves less intent upon their prey!  
The peaceful throngs of other climes  
Beneath the banner of the law,  
In hearing of the welcome chimes  
That saints to sweet communion draw;  
May vainly judge the dark abyss,  
Whelming the soul in hours like this,  
Not mother's prayer nor infant's cry,  
Nor wall in brutal clutch, avails;  
The cord that knits humanity,  
That love that over all prevails,—  
The love which on the fatal tree  
Set crime from condemnation free,  
A passion is of Heav'nly grace,—  
That in the savage has no place."

Thus in one fell hour the settlement was wiped out of existence.

It was a sickening sight which met the eyes of these scouts. Many of them had lost relatives and friends at the hands of the savages, and they were eager to pursue them to their very cabins on the lakes. But such a course would have resulted disastrously.

No better description is needed of what they saw here than is found in the Pennsylvania Gazette, Number 1818, for October 27, 1768. It is an extract from a letter dated at Partang, Lancaster County, October 28, 1768: "Our party under Captain Clayton, is returned from Wyoming, where they met no Indians, but found the New Englanders who had been killed and scalped a day or two before they got there; they buried the Dead, nine Men and one Woman, who had been most cruelly butchered; the Woman was roasted, and had two Hinges in her hands, supposed to have been put in red hot; and several of the men had Awls thrust into their Eyes, and Spears, Arrows, Pitchforks, &c., sticking in their bodies. They burned what Houses the Indians left, and destroyed a Quantity of Indian Corn. The Enemy's tracks were up the River towards Wighalousing."

For this act of burning the remaining cabins of the Connecticut settlers, and destroying the fields of corn left standing, your Wyoming historians have not failed to denounce as unmerciful and villainous. Perchance it is, and yet an unprejudiced mind, under no circumstances would impute to the act any other motive but that ascribed—of preventing the same from falling into the hands of the enemy, for surely it would have furnished a magazine of food to the murderous and marauding. The men who led the party were not of that class who had lost all the dictates of humanity. They were merciful and kind—whatever the provocation. It was done to prevent the return of the Connecticut settlers, some say, but in this sanguinary hour, that would have little weight. The Connecticut or Pennsylvania claim was never taken into consideration at such a time—for the shocking sight moved these brave hearts to tears. The Scotch-Irish frontiersmen who composed this band of Rangers were not to be influenced by Quaker clamor or Proprietary misrule. From their very first settlement in Pennsylvania down to the present Year of Grace, Anno Domini, 1889, they are the same humane people, yet as determined and fearless as the Kittatinny Mountains which looked down upon their backwoods homes. There are attributes in the Scotch-Irish make-up which have largely entered into the notable characteristics of Pennsylvania manhood.

And who were the men committed with this transaction? Let us inquire.

In a letter which Charles Miner, your great historian wrote, subsequent to the appearance of his history, speaking of the Rev. John Elder, he held this language:

"I am greatly struck with the evidences of learning, talent, and spirit displayed by the Rev. Mr. Elder. He was beyond doubt the most extraordinary man of early Pennsylvania history. . . . He was certainly a very extra-

ordinary man, of most extensive influence—full of activity and enterprise, learned, pious, and a ready writer. I take him to have been of the old Cameronian blood. Had his lot been cast in New England, he would have been a leader of the Puritans. If I ever publish another edition of my 'Wyoming,' I will endeavor to do justice to him. I hope some one may draw up a full memoir of his life, and a narrative, well digested, of his times."

Of Major Asher Clayton I trust I may be permitted to say a word. He was one of the most prominent officers of the French and Indian war—was of a good family, an excellent soldier, a noble-hearted and Christian gentleman. He would have abhorred an unkind or indecent act as one would shrink from a deadly reptile.

It has been intimated that Captain Lazarus Stewart was there—he who fell at the forefront of battle on that dark day of July 1778. *But he was not!* No man has been more vilified or maligned than that brave yet perchance injudicious officer. Fear was not in his make-up. But I come not to praise this Caesar of yours.

And now, my friends, permit me to digress for a few moments and refer briefly to certain portions of an address delivered by Charles Emory Smith, of the Philadelphia Press, at the commencement of Union College, Schenectady, on June 26, wherein he said:

"In 1784 a great flood swept the teeming valley of the Susquehanna, carrying death, havoc and destruction on its tumultuous bosom. Untold anguish, suffering and starvation followed. The Legislature was urged to send relief to the hapless sufferers, but they were Yankees from Connecticut and it was stolidly deaf to their piteous cries. Nay, more, it seized the opportunity to proscribe them as trespassers, and, with a barbarity that is almost beyond belief, the horrors of a military scourge were added to the blight of nature's calamity, and many escaped the terrors of the flood only to perish by the more cruel sword or to become victims of the not more savage wolves of the forest to which they were driven."

Now as veritable Pennsylvanians, as I know you all are, let us see how much of truth there is in this statement. Under the decree of Trenton, the Pennsylvania commissioners repaired to Wyoming with instructions to inquire "into the cases of the settlers, and to encourage, as much as possible, reasonable and friendly compromises between the parties claiming," and that it was "highly improper that any proceedings at law should be had for the recovery of any lands or tenements during the said inquiry." It was also provided that "all further proceedings be stayed." The chairman of this commission was Rev. Joseph Montgomery, an alumnus of the College of New Jersey, and also of Yale, a Presbyterian clergyman, and a member of the Confederated Continental

Congress. No abler man could have been sent on this peace errand, but he was on the side of Pennsylvania, and the leaders of the settlers made light of the commissioners. Unfortunately, the Pennsylvania claimants, who were wholly residents of Philadelphia, had a shrewd and unscrupulous attorney, Capt. Alexander Patterson, and to him the commissioners gave ear. The result was little was accomplished and the commissioners, in August, 1783, reported their failure to the General Assembly. This body seems at the time to have been under the influence of the Philadelphia land owners, and such action was taken by them as was in consonance with the suggestions and views of Patterson. Two companies of State troops were sent to Wyoming ostensibly for protection against the Indians, when there were none in arms.

In the spring of 1784, following these unfruitful labors, there was a terrible ice flood in the Susquehanna, which, although destructive to many of the buildings and fences of the settlers, *only one life was lost*. It was not a Conemaugh cataclysm.

President Dickinson, true to the instincts of his nobility of manhood, sent this brief message to the Assembly:

"GENTLEMEN—The late inundation having reduced many of the inhabitants at Wyoming to great distress, we should be glad if your honorable House would be pleased to make some immediate provision for their relief.

(Signed) JOHN DICKINSON.

Philadelphia, March 31, 1784."

"Ordered to lie on the table."

Of course, nothing was done by that illustrious (?) body, and it was left for the charitable inhabitants of the adjoining counties to send relief. And this was forthcoming—Lancaster, and Berks, and Cumberland, contributed flour and grain—and the necessities of the Wyoming people were relieved.

Now for the next statement. Under orders by irresponsible parties the troops at Wyoming in May following began to carry out a system of eviction against the Connecticut settlers. The poor people, driven from their houses, were well on their way to the Delaware, when the State authorities put a stop to these high handed outrages, and the settlers were persuaded to return to their former homes. I have not words strong enough to denounce this outrage, yet I could not, with all the polish and rhetoric or eloquence of the orator referred to, have had such a poor opinion of this dear old Commonwealth to have proclaimed this upon the house-tops. *Not one perished by the sword.*

And so I close. If I have come into contact with those who have held to thread-bare tradition,—if the facts I have briefly presented have failed to convince them that I am correct—unlike the red demon of the forest of a century or more ago, I shall not delight to have

their scalps hanging to my belt, but I leave them to their own reflections. The few brief hours allowed me for preparation, have so crowded thought, without the privilege of proper elucidation, that what I have said may appear to be unsatisfactory. An historical address requires time, care, research, and above all conciseness. If what I have said has any merit, it is *brevity*. And yet I cannot lay aside these few leaflets, without tendering my hearty congratulations to the people of this favored Valley, so rich and yet so sad with historic incident, and ye people of Wyoming do well, in coming here upon the anniversary of this Memorial day of yours to offer your votive wreaths at the place where lie your dead. They died that ye might live. They have left this heritage to you and your children. And yet not yours, but that of the people of Pennsylvania in general.

Ye people of Wyoming are too selfish—you have closely garnered up your own history, claiming it as your own birth-right—and not permitting any one to share with you in honoring or revering the memories of those who fell upon this fated field. For the true-hearted Pennsylvanian of whatever descent, I claim a part. The Scotch-Irish, the German and Swiss-Huguenot, would take as much interest in your sad history as the descendants of the Connecticut Yankees, but you would not. You have wrapped yourselves up in your own selfish pride of birth, and ignored the sympathy of your fellow-citizens in other portions of the great State we rejoice to be natives of. Let it be otherwise in the years to come. Let all the sons of Pennsylvania know that they are welcome here, welcome to your history, welcome to all the hallowed memories of this lovely valley. It will be better for all—for if there is one thing above all others common in this grand old Commonwealth of ours—it is its history—its dark and light pages—its sunshine and its gloom—yet noble from its beginnings, and triumphant down through its more than two centuries of prosperity and happiness.

When Dr. Egle had finished, Wesley Johnson moved that a vote of thanks be tendered him for his address, which was out of the line ordinarily presented on these occasions, and which was entertaining, outspoken and honest. Col. Dorrance heartily seconded. Hon. Steuben Jenkins, in putting the question to vote, facetiously modified Mr. Johnson's motion by inserting, "Dr. Egle's *well intended* address," and the motion prevailed, though Col. Dorrance took exceptions to the well intended. The incident created no little amusement, Dr. Egle being the champion of the old Pennsylvania Government, and Mr. Jenkins defending as vigorously the Connecticut regime of the last century. Most persons relished Dr. Egle's discourse, it not being often that defenders of the Penn-

sylvania system are heard in old Wyoming. Dr. Egle was afterwards warmly complimented upon his able effort.

It should be said for Dr. Egle that his address was prepared on very short notice, he having been asked to substitute for Col. J. A. Price, of Scranton, who was not well enough to keep his appointment as speaker of the day.

Sheldon Reynolds read a brief, but well prepared paper on *Tempora Mutantur*. He drew a vivid picture of early pioneer life and the changes which it was destined to undergo.

Dr. Harry Hakes was listed for the subject of Necrology, and he took the opportunity of paying a very graceful tribute to Hon. Edmund L. Dana, the only member of the association whose death had occurred during the year. He was a great grandson of Anderson Dana, the first name on the monument. He alluded to the efforts to keep up this annual gathering and attributed most of the success to Col. Dorrance. There had now been eleven reunions and the members had pledged themselves to meet so long as they should live, and endeavor to transmit the enthusiasm to their children. We cannot appreciate that day and the deeds of the men who died here. He deplored the tendency to belittle veneration for worthy ancestors. These men died for liberty. Religions and creeds may change according as man's desires may change as the centuries go by, but there is no change in the great idea of liberty. Compare the noble bearing of the men and women of America with those who are brought up under thrones.

Wesley Johnson read a letter of regret from Dr. H. Hollister, of Scranton, embodying a beautiful sentiment as to the battle of Wyoming.

Rev. J. K. Peck spoke briefly. He seemed a little nettled at Dr. Egle's defence of the Pennamites, which he took to be an implied criticism upon the Connecticut Yankees. Whatever mistake of judgment Lazarus Stewart made, said Dr. Peck, he atoned for with his life, and his bones lie beneath this marble shaft. Mr. Peck then spoke a few eloquent words upon the significance of the battle of 1778. It was not local but a part of the American Revolution. Here they laid down their lives in an effort to stop the march of Tyranny. Mr. Peck also spoke lovingly and tenderly of Judge Dana. He also spoke of having attended the funeral only yesterday of Mrs. Julia Anna Blackman Plumb, daughter of Elisha Blackman, one of the survivors of the battle. Whatever we may say of the wisdom of this handful attacking an overpowering force of Tories and Indians we cannot but exclaim, noble boys, God bless them.

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. J. K. Kilbourn and then adjournment was had for one year.

The event was a signally successful one and was carried out by this committee of arrangements: Dr. C. P. Knapp, Wyoming; D. T. Yost, Wyoming; E. T. Pettesbone, Wyoming; Dr. Fred Corss, Kingston; Burton Downing, Wilkes-Barre.

The officers: President, Charles Dorrance; Vice Presidents, Steuben Jenkins, Calvin Parsons, Dr. H. Hollister; Secretary, Wesley Johnson; Treasurer, Dr. Harry Hakes.

Among the attendants were noticed these gentlemen: Rev. Y. C. Smith, Rev. Dr. Frear, Major O. A. Parsons, Dr. A. Knapp, B. F. Dorrance, Wm. P. Johnson, Geo. W. Gustine, Dr. F. Corss, W. Geo. Powell, W. A. Wilcox, Burton Downing, Dr. C. P. Knapp, D. O. McCollum, E. D. Wilson, Charles Law, R. H. McKune.

#### A Card From Secretary Johnson.

EDITOR RECORD: I observe by numerous editorial comments as seen in the *Philadelphia Press* and some other papers of this vicinity, in discussing the facts of Dr. Egle's historical address at the Wyoming Monument on July 3, that they entirely mistake the subject on which the speaker based his discourse. I did not know beforehand what manner of address he intended to favor us with; but after listening to it I was pleased to find that he had not followed the beaten track of former speakers on a like occasion, by dwelling on events connected with the battle of 3d of July, 1778, and at once offered a resolution thanking the doctor for his able and instructive paper as a contribution to the history of the valley of an earlier period than the one we had met to commemorate. This was unanimously adopted after having been heartily seconded by Col. Dorrance, though somewhat changed in its meaning as put by the president for the day.

The fact is that Dr. Egle did not in any way touch upon the history as connected with the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778, otherwise than to refer to the heroism of the participants being worthy of all praise. It was of the first massacre, so called, of 1763, that he undertook to speak, and to show from documentary testimony in the archives of the State Library that the governor and council at that time had been wrongfully accused of a wicked complicity with the Indians in bringing upon the Connecticut people that dire calamity. It is true that the Quaker governor of Pennsylvania had repeatedly warned them that they were trespassers upon these lands, but the settlers did not look upon the situation from the same standpoint as the Pennsylvania authorities, and refused to leave at their bidding. The raid in which some thirty or forty of our



people were massacred in the fall of 1763, was made by Oneida and Cayuga Indians from what was then called the "Lake Country" in the Province of New York, who came here by way of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, avoiding the Pennsylvania soldiers stationed at Fort Augusta, near the junction of the two rivers, as reported by the two companies from Lancaster County constituting the garrison stationed there.

It has been intimated by Charles Miner and other Yankee historians that as these soldiers did not prevent the raid up the North Branch when they had it in their power to do so, consequently they must have connived at it, if they did not really aid and abet these blood-thirsty savages in their hellish work of murder of these defenseless Yankee settlers here in Wyoming, and in the absence of any explanation of the case, this would seem to be a fair inference from the facts, and especially when we remember that it is a fact that has never been denied by the Pennsylvania authorities, nor can it be, that these same Pennsylvania soldiers appeared on the scene within a few days after the slaughter and ruined and destroyed what little of buildings and stores had escaped destruction at the hands of these bloody marauders from the North. This wanton destruction of the property of the ill-fated settlers from Connecticut, it was claimed by Dr. Egle, was justifiable, as shown by documentary testimony of the time contained in dispatches from these Lancaster County soldiers, was done to prevent the abandoned property furnishing subsistence and shelter for the Indians should they determine to return and enjoy the fruits of their unholy victory over the slain.

By giving this explanation of Dr. Egle's position you will oblige our association, the members of which gladly hail any testimony that will entirely acquit the proprietary governor and council of any complicity or guilty knowledge of the intended raid so fatal in its results to these first settlers here in Wyoming, and the members of which association are not nearly so exclusive in their notions of fellowship as some of their Quaker brethren profess to believe.

WESLEY JOHNSON, Secretary.

#### Fifty Years in Wilkes-Barre.

Marx Long, the venerable merchant of this city, celebrated, July 6, the 50th anniversary of his arrival in Wilkes-Barre. He started in business here in 1844, and is now at the age of 73, actively at work, and as spry as a man of 30 years. Much of his time in late years has been taken up with his duties as a poor director, and the business management has devolved upon his son Leo W. Mr. Long is as young in spirit as any of his sons and enjoys splendid health. His many friends

wish him many years of health. He leaves in a few days for his usual summer outing at Atlantic City.

#### THE NANTICOKE GAP.

**A Former Wilkes-Barrean Writes of the Scenery of That Romantic Gorge and Gives Some Old-Time Reflections.**

I am not aware that there is any portion of the Wyoming Valley invested with as much interest to me as that where the Susquehanna finds its way of exit. I knew it well before DeWitt Clinton's deluded imitators in ditch digging constructed a dam at the head of Nanticoke falls. This was done despite the protest of Jacob Cist, whose superior comprehension foresaw in the railroad system the coming glory of national achievements. But the noble river was dammed; and, as many of us know, subsequently became the prolific source of a fund of malediction and profanity unequalled since the English invasion of Flanders. The hazardous chute was the dread of all the raftsmen in the north. It was here the product of their winter's toil went to destruction. But the people lifted up their voices in demanding a ditch, and it therefore went forward to completion, by delving, blasting and much sweating, to the State line, a perpetual blockade of the finest shad fisheries in the union.

From nearly opposite points two streams find way to the river at this place. Nanticoke creek on the south, and on the north side one of greater volume, called Harvey's creek, its head being, as Judge Burnside always asserted, the largest lake in Pennsylvania. Near the river it passed the base of Tillberry's Knob, an abrupt ledge similar to Campbell's, at the head of the valley. The primitive name of this noble stream is now unknown. The early settlers seem to have had so much Indian in various disagreeable ways, they didn't pay much heed to names. Still, we now come to realize that the loss of these musical applications are poorly substituted by such modern terms as Mud Run and Stink Pond.

It was under the brow of the butting ledge, on the waters of Harvey's Creek, and distant a mile or so from his nearest neighbor, that Abraham Tillberry established his noted gristmill. It did the custom work for the farmers in a circuit of many miles around. Abraham, a silent, meditative man, wearing spectacles of the ancient style, whose glasses were large as our silver dollars, ran the mill himself. One incident of his experience in this occupation occasioned much remark: His water wheel one day came to a dead stop. Much fruitless examination was made to ascertain the cause. After considerable time it was found to be an eel, large as a stout

man's limb. The space between the wheel and wooden flume in which it revolved, had not been properly graduated for the passage of the Harvey's Lake eels.

It was a mile or so above this place that Plunket was repulsed by the Yankee settlers. Formed in line on a ledge, the latter awaited his approach. Until within a few years, a stone something like a yard square was still in place behind which a prudent soldier had done duty. I have often stopped in passing to look at this shield against the missiles of combat, standing on edge between two trees, that at the time alluded to must have been but saplings. Stonewall Jackson in after years more fully tested the utility of this system of defence.

Something similar, but more contracted, the rugged formation of heights at this spot. A prominent feature being the falls as they were in times past. A severed mountain ridge affording passage for the creek—a precipitous spur on the south—the Shawanese alluvium on the east—and westward the river speeding through its mountain trough of two parallel lofty ranges.

How wonderful within my own recollection has been the change! Where Abraham Tillyberry one side of the river and Col. Washington Lee on the other lived in isolation, now teems a stirring multitude. The change of owners has, as elsewhere, given proof of the marked differences between the uncultivated and the polished—the Saxon and the Savage. Doylestown, 1889. C. E. WRIGHT.

#### Who First Descended the Susquehanna.

[Harrisburg Telegraph.]

[We are indebted to a gentleman well versed in the aboriginal history of the country for the following notes, which are well worth perusing and preserving.]

In regard to your inquiry as to the parties first descending the Susquehanna, the accounts are found in different works as follows:

First, Three Dutchmen (one name Kleyntjes) accompanied a party of Mohawks in 1614 from Fort Nassau (afterwards Fort Orange, now Albany, N. Y.), in a war expedition against the Carantouans, as then called by the French, but known to the Dutch as Minquas. The great town of this tribe was then located at so-called "Spanish Hill," near Waverly, and a smaller town on Sugar Creek, near North Towanda. The attack was unsuccessful, and the three Dutchmen were captured.

Chaplain in 1615, accompanied a party of Hurons in a war expedition against the Onondagas, and sent Stephen Brule, a Frenchman, with a party of Hurons to make arrangements with the Carantouans to send 500 warriors to aid the Hurons, &c., in their

war against the Onondagas. The expedition was unsuccessful, and Brule returned with the Carantouans, and wintered among them. The next spring he descended the river, as he says, to the sea, and afterward, in attempting to return, was captured by the Iroquois, and not until 1619 did he find Champlain, who then wrote out his account. The Carantouan account of this capture of the Dutchmen, and of the expeditions is found in Champlain's works. These books, as originals, are very rare. A reprint, second edition, in French, was published at Quebec a few years since, by Geo. E. Debarats, but this is now obtained with great difficulty. The Prince Society of Boston have recently translated and published a beautiful edition of all the works of Champlain, in three volumes. The Dutch account of the capture of these men and of their ransom will be found in vol. 1 of the Documentary history of N. Y., p. 14. This is exceedingly brief, however. Additional facts will be found in the two maps in same vol. at page 10 and 12. On the second one the Susquehanna appears as far down as Towanda. This was made as I think in 1614. On the 1st, made as I believe in 1616, the same river appears, fairly correct as far down as Shamokin, and incorrectly below that point, and is made to flow into Delaware Bay to the west of the Delaware. Neither of these maps as yet has been correctly interpreted in any published works. I have prepared an analysis, but it is lengthy, and must be rewritten before it is fit to read even.

You will find two maps discussed by Mr. Brodhead in the N. Y. H. S. Proceedings for 1845, pp. 183-192. He failed, unfortunately, in his analysis, and since that date I am not aware of any one attempting the discussion, and, possibly, I may regret making the attempt. If you take the trouble to examine the question, you will find that my interpretation is something original and *entirely new*. If I can ever find time to visit your place I will bring along all my notes and discuss the Susquehanna question fully. I expected before this to send you an article for yours *Notes and Queries* on CANAWAGA, or CONEWAGO as you write it, followed by one on CONESTOGA, and another on SUSQUEHANNA, but have been unable to do so as yet. If you can find the exact locality of the "Sasquahana Indian Fort" (see map in your Hist., p. 92, and Moll's map 1715, Herrman's 1670) it will be an interesting discovery. It will be found on a high hill—on the south bank of the river—with a level space or nearly so on top of not less than three or four acres, a short distance below the "great falls," possibly between Great and Little Conewago, but certainly between two streams of some character. I could find it in one day's search, in my opinion.

## DEATH OF DOCTOR MINER.

**Typhoid Fever Claims One of Wilkes-Barre's Most Promising Physicians as a Victim—A Useful and Busy Life Ended.**

[Daily Record, July 29.]

Readers of Saturday's Record were made aware of the fact that the condition of Dr. Miner had suddenly become critical. All day Friday he was delirious most of the time, though having intervals of complete consciousness. He realized that the end was approaching and comforted his wife by telling her that it was not hard to die except that he had to leave her and the dear little children. Compelled to face the dread destroyer at a time when life was just unfolding in the full promise of a happy and successful career, and surrounded by a young family to whom he was supremely devoted, his resignation was at once touching and beautiful. During the evening he made known his last requests, bade his family a loving farewell, asked that a hymn be sung—in which he participated—and commended his dear ones to a merciful God in a touching prayer. Subsequent to this he was unconscious, except that he recognized voices and could readily be roused. After 4 o'clock the stupor was profound and at 10 o'clock Saturday morning he had breathed his last.

At his bedside were his wife, his brother John, his aunt and the physicians. When he had breathed his last, Dr. Mayer said "Joshua is gone. We all loved him." A moment or two later his oldest child, who had been sent for from out of town, arrived, and his breaking little heart brought tears from the eyes of the physicians long accustomed to similar scenes of grief.

The news of his death spread rapidly and everywhere were heard expressions of sorrow. The public interest in his case was shown at the Record office, where the telephone was kept busy with inquiries as to his condition. Everybody seemed to feel that he belonged to the public. This was but natural, for he was always ready to respond to every call to assist or benefit his fellow men. He was a grand, good man—blessed with a sunny disposition, a temper which even his associates never saw ruffled, and a tongue which never spake guile of any man. That he lived to do good was shown years ago when he was choosing his profession. Some members of his family wished him to become a minister, but his tastes were to be a doctor and in a conversation with a trusted counsellor he asked whether a Christian physician could not do as much good as a clergyman, and upon being assured that he could, and that he sometimes had opportunities which were denied a minister, his decision was promptly made. That he sought to

carry out this ideal life, his career in Wilkes-Barre abundantly testifies.

Deprived of his mother in his boyhood he found true friends in his aunts, Jane and Augusta Miner, the former of whom survives him, and who is almost crushed by the affliction.

Dr. Joshua Lewis Miner was a son of the late Lewis H. Miner and would have been 34 years Nov. 11 next. His mother was Maria Elizabeth Tuttle, daughter of the late James N. Tuttle, of New York, and the mention of her name will recall her to our older citizens as a woman of rare loveliness of character. His grandfather was Joshua Miner who came here from New London, Conn., in 1811, and his grandmother was Fannie Hepburn, whose father removed here from New Haven. Dr. Miner received a liberal education, graduating as a Bachelor of Arts with honors from Lafayette College in 1878. After completing his college studies he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in the class of 1881. This was supplemented with a six months' term at the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital as resident physician. In September 1881 he married Miss Annie K. Hand, of Easton, a sister of Isaac P. Hand, Esq., and a daughter of Rev. Dr. A. H. Hand, formerly pastor at Palisades Presbyterian Church, N. Y., and for many years a trustee of Lafayette College. Four interesting children have been born to them—Joshua L., Jr., aged 7 years; Tracy, aged 5; Elizabeth, 3, and baby Edith Fuller Miner, less than one year of age.

Dr. Miner for the last three years had been an elder in the First Presbyterian Church, in all of whose activities he maintained an unflagging interest. For several years he has been superintendent of the Grant Street Sunday School. He was also an active member and one of the Board of Managers of the Young Men's Christian Association. He was one of the organizers of the local council of the Legion of Honor, a beneficial organization of which he was financier for several years, and which will pay his widow the amount carried on his life, as will the Heptasophs and Good Fellows, with which he was also connected. Dr. Miner was one of the men on whom the Luzerne County Medical Society depended for its existence, he being always placed on committees whenever there was work to be done. At the meeting in January last he was elected president of the society. He was a member of the State Medical Society, and had attended several of the annual gatherings. He was a member of the Lafayette Alumni Association of Northern Pennsylvania, and was one of the executive committee.

The title of Doctor Miner, first familiar to Wilkes-Barre people when Dr. Thomas W. Miner—distantly related to deceased—led the medical practice of this community, and

then transmitted to his son, Dr. E. B. Miner, had come to the subject of this brief sketch and promised to be continued here for many years.

Dr. Miner had practiced medicine in Wilkes-Barre for eight years, during which time he had won most honored place. His sterling traits of character, his modest and unassuming manner, his genial and sunny disposition, his nobleness of purpose, and his constant unselfishness, added to his inherent ability as a practitioner, made him a rising man. His sun has gone down long before it reached the zenith and his busy, useful, cheery life is ended. The loss to the community is great, but who can measure the crushing blow to wife and little children. Out down before he had opportunity to accumulate much of this world's goods he could not leave them wealth, but he leaves them what is far better—the heritage of a good name and a pure life. But he did not leave them unprovided for. It is learned that his life was insured to some extent and it is hoped sufficiently to enable the widow to meet the struggle of life alone.

#### ACTION OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Luzerne County Medical Society held a special meeting Saturday evening at the office of Dr. Murphy to take action on the death of their late president, Dr. Miner.

Dr. Hakes was called upon to preside. It was ordered that the members of the society attend the funeral in a body, and that they meet at Dr. Murphy's office at 4:15 o'clock, the time of the funeral being 4:30, from the family residence. A committee was appointed to arrange for carriages and to make any other necessary arrangements.

A committee consisting of Dr. Mayer, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Weaver, Dr. Shoemaker and Dr. Johnson, was appointed to draft some expression of the society's sense of bereavement. The committee presented the following minute, drawn by Dr. Mayer, which was ordered spread upon the records and a copy sent to the family of deceased:

"The members of the Luzerne County Medical Society are, with scant warning, today bereft of one of their number and are called upon to mourn the loss of a most valued friend and brother.

Hitherto, since the formation of our society, our ranks of its members living in Wilkes-Barre have been thinned only by the removal by death of two physicians [Drs. Dennis and Bulkeley] who were advanced in years and whose period of cares and duties were approaching their natural termination. To-day the remorseless hand of death has cut off from us one in the prime of life and power, just entering upon a successful career; our friend, our daily companion, whose agreeable presence, kindly tones and genial countenance and warm grasp of hand had

endeared him to each one of us by the closest ties of affection.

There has been in our profession in this city no man more popular or generally beloved than was Dr. Joshua L. Miner. The gentleness, amiability and sweetness of nature, which drew to him all hearts, were not the attributes of a weak character, and were combined with a love of truth and justice which made him the enemy of all false pretense and wrong doing, the determined supporter of what he deemed right in all matters of religion and morals, of social and of professional life. He was a student, a close observer of disease, a careful and skilled practitioner and as conscientious and painstaking in his relations with his patients as in all other regards.

Our community, by his premature taking off, has been deprived of a wise, prudent, brave, just and influential citizen. In common with Dr. Miner's friends and parents, we, his professional brethren, feel that we have sustained an irreparable loss which we will ever deplore as a personal cause of grief.

We extend to the family of Dr. Miner our heartfelt sympathies and our hopes that the God of the widow and fatherless will comfort and aid them in their time of sore distress.

As a further expression of the regard of the members of this society for our late president and friend, we will attend his funeral in a body, and it is directed that the secretary shall incorporate this minute in the records of the society, and that a copy of the same be sent to the family of our deceased member."

After the adoption of the minute remarks were made by Drs. Weaver, Taylor, Guthrie, Murphy, Hakes, Crawford, Knapp and Davis. All spoke lovingly and tenderly of the departed, and of the always pleasant relations with the deceased. There was but one voice—that he was a genial associate, a skillful physician, a good citizen and a man of rare unselfishness and stern integrity.

#### RESOLUTIONS OF THE Y. M. C. A.

A special meeting of the Board of Managers of the Young Men's Christian Association was held on Saturday at 4 p. m. It was agreed to meet at the rooms at 4:15 on Monday and attend the funeral in a body. A committee was appointed, consistin of H. W. Dunning, R. L. Ayres and F. C. Johnson to present resolutions, and the following drafted by Mr. Dunning, were unanimously adopted:

"The death of Dr. Joshua L. Miner, who expired at his residence on South Franklin Street this morning, will fill the hearts of the people of this city with profound sorrow and cause a deep sense of loss to pervade this community.

The doctor was one of the most popular and best known young men in the city—a friend to every one and every one's friend. He was prominently connected with the First Presbyterian Church, being a ruling elder, and the Superintendent of the Grant Street Presbyterian Sunday School.

He was manager of the Young Men's Christian Association and associated with many other organization which had the good of mankind at heart and his death is an unpeakable loss.

A Christian gentleman in society and business, a devoted husband and father, so genial and happy, obliging and kind, so faithful and patient in sickness and suffering, so true to his friends and noble in character, so charitable towards others, with a sense of honor so exalted as to be chivalrous indeed; a physician of great promise, a young man in the full possession of his mental and physical powers, carefully educated and trained, fully equipped for a life of usefulness and honor, bound to this world by a devoted wife and four little children, with a growing practice, with a continually enlarging horizon the future was luminous with hope and big with promise.

But inscrutable wisdom and infinite love has declared his work finished, and we, the Board of Managers of the Young Men's Christian Association of Wilkes-Barre, bow in submission to Superior Wisdom and perfect, though mysterious, love. Therefore,

Resolved, That we would record our sense of the many and varied excellencies of Dr. Miner.

Resolved, also, That in his death the Young Men's Christian Association loses a wise counsellor and diligent worker.

Resolved, That the Young Men's Christian Association holds in grateful remembrance the indebtedness of the Association to the prayers, counsel and devoted labors of the deceased manager.

Resolved, That in our sorrow we would not forget the stricken family, but would commend them to the God of the widow and fatherless.

Resolved, That we, the board of managers, attend the funeral in a body.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the association and copy sent to the family of the deceased and published in the local papers."

Special meetings of the Legion of Honor and the Good Fellows were held Saturday evening to take suitable action on the death of Dr. Miner.

At the First Presbyterian Church and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Sunday morning touching reference was made to deceased and the gap his death had created.

It is the custom of the classes in Grant Street Chapel, of which Dr. Miner was superintendent, to take turn in furnishing

flowers for the Sunday services, they being sent afterwards to any sick families represented. A similar custom obtains in the First Presbyterian Sunday school. Yesterday both schools united in sending the sweet bunches of flowers to Dr. Miner's sorrowing family.

Memorial services will be held at Grant Street Chapel.

Rev. C. I. Junkin, pastor at Grant Street, received the telegram announcing that Dr. Miner was sinking and reached home from Delaware Water Gap on Saturday noon. He assisted Dr. Hodge at the morning service yesterday.

#### DR. MINER LAID AT REST.

**Hundreds Assemble to Testify Their Esteem—An Autopsy Proves that the Fatal Malady was Typhoid Fever.**

[Daily Record, July 30.]

The last sad tributes of respect to the late Dr. Joshua L. Miner were shown Monday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock by a large concourse of sympathizing friends. The afternoon was showery, but hundreds of persons who were unable to find shelter in the residence stood underneath umbrellas outside. The large attendance included all classes, professional men standing side by side with mechanics. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. C. I. Junkin. They were very simple, both gentlemen being unable to trust themselves to speaking, so moved were they by the sadness of the occasion. The floral tributes were beautiful and profuse. The features of the dead were wan, but natural and composed. The only singing was the hymn "Lead, Kindly Light," which was beautifully and sympathetically rendered by Miss May Brundage.

The Luzerne County Medical Society, of which deceased was president, attended in a body, as did the elders of the First Presbyterian Church and the Board of Managers of the Young Men's Christian Association. Other societies were also represented by individual members. Grant Street Sunday School, of which deceased was superintendent, attended in full force. Nearly all the ministers of town were present.

The pall bearers were Dr. Murphy, Dr. Taylor, H. A. Fuller, R. L. Ayres, H. W. Dunning and Prof. James C. Mackenzie. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

It is reported that Dr. Miner's life was insured for something over \$20,000—ten thousand in the Equitable, \$5,000 in the Legion of Honor, \$3,000 in the Good Fellows, and \$3,000 in the Mutual Benefit.

Upon the request of Dr. Murphy a post mortem was conducted yesterday, the result of which was to establish conclusively that death was due to typhoid fever. A perforation of the intestine was found a few inches

from the ileo-cecal valve, this being the diagnostic sign of the disease.

Among the relatives from out of town were Mrs. Baker, Scranton; Miss Gertrude Hand, Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tyer, Dobbs Ferry; Geo. Hand, Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. James Hand, Scranton; John Miner, New York.

#### BOARD OF TRADE TRIBUTE.

The following tribute was paid to the late Dr. Miner by the trustees of the Board of Trade, at a special meeting held yesterday afternoon at the board rooms:

Dr. Joshua Lewis Miner was born in Wilkes-Barre November 11, 1855. He graduated from Lafayette College in 1878, and from the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1881. He practiced at his profession regularly in our city till the beginning of his fatal sickness. He died of typhoid fever July 27, 1889.

Dr. Miner was a physician, a worker, a business man, a husband, a father, a Christian. The most useful workers do not always work so as to be seen of men. Their more fruitful activity is carried on in private, or with the knowledge of the few, and its rewards are sought, not in wide popularity and immediate applause, but in the beneficent results of the future. Among such servants of the human race was Dr. Miner, who went about doing good. His nature was refined, his impulses humane. There was never a moment when he would not rather do an act of kindness than not. His manners were gentle and unobtrusive and his bearing always genial. There was no citizen among us of his years to whom men of all ages and conditions, those who knew him and those who knew him not, habitually took off their hats when they met him on the street. His life was surrounded by the public respect, and his death is followed by the public sympathy. We lament the death of Dr. Miner more on the public account than that an honest, Christian worker has left us.

#### HELD IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE.

Memorial Services at Grant Street Presbyterian Chapel—Tributes to the Worth of the Late Dr. Miner.

[Daily Record, August 5.]

The service at Grant Street Presbyterian Chapel last evening was in memory of the late Dr. Joshua L. Miner, for several years superintendent of the Sunday school. The edifice was entirely filled. In front of the platform was a beautiful bank of flowers. The pastor, Rev. C. I. Junkin, read the 27th Psalm, of which the closing verse reads: "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the Lord." Mr. Junkin said it was the purpose to divest the services, as far as pos-

sible, from any funereal character and that in the Scripture, the songs and the remarks, there would be an effort to be cheerful. It was announced that the Bible selection and the hymns chosen were all among the favorites of the dead superintendent.

After singing a hymn A. L. LeGrand read the appended tribute, drawn by a committee appointed by the school on the Sunday previous:

The officers, teachers and scholars of the Grant Street Presbyterian Sunday School desire to place on record the following tribute to the memory of the late Joshua Lewis Miner, M. D.:

In the death of Joshua Lewis Miner, the Grant Street Sunday School has met with a loss greater than words can fittingly express. For eight years our school has been blessed by the loving thoughts, the earnest prayers, and the efficient labors of this faithful servant of Christ.

By his abilities, manifested in so many directions, he won our heartiest respect and admiration; because of the spotless integrity of his character and the singular beauty of his Christian life we greatly and sincerely honored him; for his gentleness, fidelity, kindness and Christlike charity we loved him very dearly.

His very presence was a benediction; his earnest words turned our thoughts continually to the Master whom he served so loyally and so lovingly. His example was as a shining light that leads us to the Christ.

This tribute of grateful love we pay to his memory, while we lift up our hearts in thanksgiving to the giver of every good and perfect gift for all that our friend has been to us and for all that he did in our behalf.

And our heart's desire and prayer to God is that we may be enabled by his grace so to follow the Lord Jesus that we also may attain to that nobler service and richer blessedness to which our beloved friend has been called.

The committee comprised Rev. Charles I. Junkin, E. S. Gruver, Mrs. W. Webb, A. L. LeGrand, A. M. Herring, Nellie B. Parrish, Wm. G. Ash and Elsie Nesbitt.

Some remarks were then made by J. B. Davenport, assistant superintendent; J. W. Raeder, Robert L. Ayres, Dr. L. H. Taylor, S. M. Bard and F. C. Johnson.

Mr. Raeder spoke of Dr. Miner's activity in the First Church, particularly with reference to his support of the meeting for young men.

Mr. Ayres paid a beautiful tribute, making special reference to the two traits of the sincerity of his worship and the unselfishness of his character. Mention was made of the fact that on the day he was prostrated he walked to the Sunday school, to spare his tired horse and on his return he was taken with a chill, and even after this visited his patients until midnight.

Dr. Taylor spoke of Dr. Miner as a physician. His had been a well-spent life, though without full measure of years. Dr. Taylor said his first knowledge of him was his offering a prayer as a lad in a church meeting. They were medical students together and the warmest of friends since. As a physician Dr. Miner was universally beloved, and men-

tion was made of the meeting of the County Medical Society, held the day of his death, and the beautiful words spoken there by his professional associates. Dr. Miner loved his profession and was devoted to it. He was never known to refuse a call which came in charity's name. The tributes paid to his memory were more to be desired, said Dr. Taylor, than the costliest of monuments.

Secretary Bard spoke of Dr. Miner as a member of the board of Y. M. C. A. managers and as an enthusiastic supporter of the Sunday meetings for young men. Referring to the list of topics for the coming autumn he found that Dr. Miner was appointed to lead the meeting for Sept. 23. Mr. Bard related some incidents showing the faithful work done by Dr. Miner and his power as a leader.

Mr. Johnson alluded to Dr. Miner as a citizen. Reference was made to the fact that in addition to interesting himself in religious matters he gave his attention to matters concerning the temporal welfare of the community. He was true and just in all his dealings. Allusion was made to the fact that Dr. Miner was one of the organizers and supporters of the young men's meeting among the medical students at the University of Pennsylvania, since developed into an important branch of the Y. M. C. A.; and of the tribute paid by a physician, who stated that in all Dr. Miner's intimate contact with the families represented in Grant Street Sunday School as its superintendent, he never let fall a word that could tend to undermine the professional standing of whoever was family physician.

Mr. Johnson supplemented his remarks with these stanzas, clipped from a newspaper where they were alongside an obituary notice of Dr. Miner:

    "Keep close to me, my God,  
    Keep close to me!  
The storm is beating on me fierce and wild.  
Thy face is hidden from thy weary child,  
On me the billows heavily do roll  
And threaten to engulf my fainting soul!  
Oh, be Thine arm my sure support and stay,  
Or else the flood will sweep me far away.  
    Keep close to me, my God,  
    Oh! close to me!  
    "I hide me close to Thee, my God,  
    Aye, close to Thee!  
None else can know my bitterness or grief.  
Nor any heart save Thine can bring relief.  
I fear my hands may slip from off their hold.  
The winds are keen, the storm is very cold,  
But if Thou hold me I can still endure  
Till night is past and morning breaketh sure—  
    Oh! keep me close to Thee, my God!  
    Aye, close to Thee!"

A letter from Rev. Dr. Hodge, regretting his inability to be present was read. It abounded in beautiful expressions of his regard by Dr. Miner and the loss which his death had occasioned.

The services closed with the hymn "In the far better land."

#### DEATH OF PROF. POWELL,

##### Of Edwardsville—A Short Sketch of His Life.

Prof. William Butler Powell died at his home in Edwardsville shortly after midnight on Aug. 21. The circumstances attending his death, the nature of his disease, his youth, ability and prominence render the occasion a very sad and pathetic one. He was taken with hemorrhages of the lungs on the Fourth of July, and since that time has gradually failed in health. It is thought that he contracted the disease while at the lake. He was overtaken by a rain storm and took refuge in an ice house in which he caught cold. Every care and medical attention failed to save him. In fact, nothing but his intense courage and heroic will made him survive so long. The end was not immediately expected, but he passed away unconsciousness to all about him.

Mr. Powell was twenty-six years of age last July. He was filling the positions of professor of elocution at Wyoming Seminary and coal inspector for Conyngham, Stickney & Co. He had made arrangements for a course of law study and was about to register when his plans were forestalled by disease. He graduated from Wyoming Seminary, in 1885 attended Oberlin College, and in the following year received the diploma of the National School of Oratory at Philadelphia. His reading was extensive and he had a passion for philosophical works, but throughout his experience his opinions were in accord with Christianity. It was as a public speaker that his talents shone brightest, and there was a future of undoubted success before him on the platform. He canvassed the county for the Republican Committee during the last campaign and was politically in the ascendant. He was a strong candidate for the Legislative nomination of the Third District last year. For several years he acted as clerk to the Edwardsville Borough Council. Too close attention to his work no doubt had much to do in rendering him susceptible to the fatal malady.

Three sisters and a brother remain of the family. These are Mrs. Wm. T. Price, with whom he has lived for many years, Mrs. Daniel Lloyd, Mrs. Catharine Perry, who is so ill that she is unable to receive the sad news, and Daniel Thomas, his half-brother, of South Warren, Bradford County. On his maternal side, Mr. Powell was a grandson of Sir George Butler, who lived at Bristol, England, in the early part of this century.

**DEATH OF MRS. L. D. SHOEMAKER.**

**She Quietly Passes Away After Being Con-  
fined to Her Room Only About a Week.**

The many friends of Mrs. Esther W., wife of Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, will be greatly shocked to learn of her death, which occurred at the residence on Franklin Street Aug. 4 shortly before 9 o'clock p. m. All the family and nearly all the immediate relatives were present when death came. Mrs. Shoemaker had been ailing about a month, but her usual force of will prevented her taking to her bed until last Monday. The symptoms were those of malarial fever. They became alarming at once and it was apparent that her condition was very serious. Some days ago the relatives were summoned by telegraph. Everything possible was done to alleviate her condition, but these efforts proved entirely unavailing. On Saturday came periods of unconsciousness, and yesterday she was in this condition nearly all the time, finally breathing quietly away as stated, without a return of reason before the end.

Those who have known Mrs. Shoemaker during these years will always cherish the memory of one who had a decided strength of character and one who was a noble type of Christian womanhood. She was conservative in her tastes and devoted to her family, among the members of which her presence was a constant joy and blessing.

Many of her traits of character, inspiring not only the admiration, but the respect of those who knew her, could not be hidden even under a quiet, reserved demeanor. There is oftentimes a fragrance from a life like this, all the sweeter because so unassuming and so gentle. Mrs. Shoemaker was always inclined to quick sympathy for the unfortunate and for those whose path in life seemed over rough and dreary places. She had been identified with the Board of Managers of the Home for the Friendless for many years, and this was supplemented by her church work, and other deeds of kindness and charity. But there were many acts of hers, the outpouring of a generous, loving disposition toward others, which are known only to her immediate family, and there are many things, too, of this sort, which were never known but to herself and her Maker. She was fond of relieving the necessities of the poor in such a way that no one should know of it, and there are scores of God's unfortunates who will shed a tear as they are apprised of the departure from earth of one who has in former days ministered to their wants. Many will cherish gratefully the

memory of one to whose kind thoughtfulness they have often been indebted for the substantial of life, this mercy coming like a ray of light into a gloomy and darkened existence.

Mrs. Shoemaker was before her marriage Miss Esther Wadhams, the daughter of Samuel and Clorinda Wadhams, of Plymouth. Her father was descended from the Wadhams of Devonshire, England, William De Wadhams being freeholder of this land in 1272. A branch of this family settled in Connecticut in 1650, and thence some of them came to the Wyoming Valley. Mrs. Shoemaker was born in Plymouth, Dec. 13, 1826. She had four brothers, one older than herself, Elijah C. Wadhams, who died in this city last January, and two younger, Moses and Calvin Wadhams, both of whom are now dead. She was married Oct. 10, 1843 to L. D. Shoemaker, of this city, and since that time her residence has been here. She has during these years been prominently identified with the Franklin Street M. E. Church and her presence in the pew has never been less constant than her work in connection with the interests of the church in all its departments.

Mrs. Shoemaker is survived by her husband Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, by her son Dr. Levi Ives Shoemaker, also by five daughters—Mrs. I. A. Stearns, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. W. G. Phelps, of Binghamton, N. Y.; Mrs. Geo. L. Dickerman, of New Haven, Conn., and Miss Jane A. and Esther Wadhams Shoemaker, of this city.

**Laid Away at Rest.**

The remains of the late Mrs. L. D. Shoemaker were, by loving hands, tenderly laid away to final rest in Forty Fort Cemetery Tuesday. There was a very large gathering of representative citizens and friends of the deceased at the house, where the services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Phillips, of the Franklin Street M. E. Church. Rev. Dr. Tuttle, of Baltimore, read the opening scripture lessons and offered prayer. Dr. Phillips spoke of the beautiful character of the deceased, and the lessons to be derived therefrom. He dwelt somewhat upon the beautiful thought that the death of a Christian should not call out public grief, but that those of Christian faith should rejoice that another had successfully fought the good fight and had entered into the heavenly rest. There is rejoicing among the angels of heaven when a soul is welcomed to everlasting peace, and we mortals should feel this as well.

A tender prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Hodge, the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Dr. Frear and the services were at an end. A long train of carriages bore the rela-



tives and sympathizing friends to the cemetery, where after the brief ritualistic service the body was consigned to its last rest.

The pall-bearers were Gen. E. S. Osborne, F. V. Bockafellow, J. W. Hollenback, J. C. Phelps, Hon. C. A. Miner and A. T. McClintock. The carriers were M. H. Wadhams, Ralph H. Wadhams, R. C. Shoemaker, William M. Shoemaker, C. J. Shoemaker and Charles Harrower.

#### An Honorable Life Ended.

The life of Van Camp Coobaugh, which ended on August 3 at his pretty home near the corner of West River and Academy Streets, was one of the busy, active sort, and is the record of an honorable business career. He was a quarter of a century ago cashier of the Merchants Hotel in New York City, but for 22 years was interested in the lumber business in Middletown and was vice president of the Middletown bank. He was possessed of many of those talents which command respect and admiration.

About two years ago symptoms of kidney troubles became apparent and he determined to pass his declining years in this city, which he considered especially beautiful and lovely. He came here in April, 1888, and built a handsome house and two others near by. He was connected with the First Presbyterian Church of this city. His death was due to paralysis, superinduced by other enfeeblements. He was 61 years of age and is survived by a wife and four daughters. A brother, Moses Coobaugh, lives in Pittston.

The funeral occurred from the house Monday at 4 o'clock. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### She Was Seventy-three Years Old.

Mrs. Thomas Lazarus, of Buttonwood, died at her home July 30, at 10 o'clock of a dropsical affection. She was about 73 years of age and was a native of Warren County, N. J. Her father was Barnet Miller and she came here when she was 16 years old. She has three sisters—Mrs. Reuben Downing, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Abram Fairchild, Montandon, Pa., and Mrs. Zebulon Hoyt, of Michigan; also three brothers: Andrew Miller, Factoryville; Barnet Miller, Montandon; Peter Miller, Kalamazoo, Mich. Her husband died in December last. She was conscious to the last and in the full possession of her faculties, though she had been an invalid and death was a happy relief. She was a member of the Methodist Church and a most excellent wife, mother and neighbor. Her seven children were present at the death

bed: Mrs. M. E. Harrison, Mrs. Lucy A. Lueder, George, Chester, Mrs. Lucinda M. Brundage, of Susquehanna; Mrs. Stella Brader, Mrs. Margaret D. Bennett.

#### Mrs. Hahn's Death.

The death of Mrs. Mehetable Munson, wife of Gustav Hahn, occurred on Monday, Aug. 13, at 8 p. m., from the residence of her father, Salmon Munson, at Orange. She had been ailing for nearly a year and a few weeks ago she went to her father's residence, hoping for benefit from the change. Deceased was born near Orange about 55 years ago. She was married to Gustav Hahn, Esq., of this city, about 30 years ago. She was a member of the Franklin Street M. E. Church of this city and was much beloved by those who knew her best. Her father is still living, her mother having died about six years ago. She is survived also by her husband, a sister, Miss Angeline Munson, and by three children, Miss Hamie, Byron and Harry Hahn.

The funeral occurred on Thursday at 2 p. m. from the residence of the father of deceased in Orange.

#### Death of Mrs. Price.

Mrs. Clarissa Price died in Kingston Saturday Aug. 3, at 6 o'clock at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. A. J. Pringle. Her death was due to general debility, resulting from old age, she having attained to the age of 91 years. Her husband, George Price, died in 1859. Two daughters survive, the one mentioned and Mrs. J. D. Cooper, now living in Maryland. Mrs. Price was one of the oldest residents of the valley and during the many years of her life came to know a great many people. The funeral took place from the home of Mrs. Pringle Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment in Forty Forty cemetery.

#### Up-the-River Relics.

[Wyalusing Rocket.]

Moses Frutchoy, of Sugar Run, recently found in the river bank on the E. V. Brown farm, at the bend, two skeletons, a lot of pottery, stone knife and a number of other stone utensils used by the red men who lived in that section. The high water having washed the bank away, these skeletons and relics were left exposed. He has also discovered somewhere in the same locality a mine, the specimens of ore taken from it showing a good percentage of some mineral. Mr. Frutchoy has long excelled as a hunter and fisherman.

## DESCENDANTS OF SOLOMON.

**The Representatives of the Hakes Family Gather From all Over the Union and Listen to the Roar of Niagara and the Tumultuous Theology of the Wilkes-Barre Lawyer-Doctor.**

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Aug. 21.—From nearly every Northern State, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, representatives of the family were in attendance and in increased number at this annual reunion. By a resolution adopted in 1888, the publication of the second enlarged and revised edition of the family genealogy was directed for distribution at this reunion.

The work has been done and has already been generally distributed. It is a beautiful volume of 228 pages, describing eight generations in the male line, in perfect order of arrangement, embracing eleven hundred and ninety-five names. It is elegantly bound in half morocco, gilt edges and raised bands.

The Family was called to order in the parlors of the International Hotel at 11 a. m. by the president of the association. Miss Gertrude Hakes, the secretary, read the program for the meeting as follows: Music by the orchestra; prayer; reading of notes of last annual meeting; election of officers for next year; address of the president; miscellaneous business; annual family banquet; adjournment to third Wednesday of August, 1890.

Dr. Harry Hakes, of Wilkes-Barre, who has compiled the genealogy and who is the leading spirit in the reunions, delivered the address, of which a synopsis is appended:

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:** The primary object of the publication of our genealogical record is to give the present living members a knowledge of the names, residences and occupations of the living and their relationship, dates of birth, parentage, and dates and names of those connected by marriage. It also embraces the history of those who have died, as far as it has been possible to ascertain, from the remotest period from which we can with certainty trace our lineage. A secondary but even more important consideration is to put in permanent form our family records, and to guard with our utmost care their preservation. Even among families who cherish and prize the records, we must remember that they come and go, and that through carelessness and death, removal and common dangers by fire or flood, the certainty of preserving, and the transmission, of one of these books for fifty or one hundred years by private families, is very uncertain. Could we feel sure that any member of our families would once in twenty-five, fifty or even a hundred years take up this record and extend the same, publish and preserve it, we might experience

a greater degree of security for this record. The probabilities or possibilities in this behalf, as regards our families, are of course, about the same as of other people. The chances, ten thousand to one against them. In casting about to do the best we may in our day and generation, the most obvious way which is suggested to carry out our interest is to place copies of our record in public libraries, cared for and preserved, either by historical societies or libraries maintained by State or National authority. To this end a copy has been placed in the Congressional Library at Washington, in each State and Territorial library within the jurisdiction of the United States, and in many historical and genealogical libraries amounting in this country to about 130 copies. A copy also is deposited in the British Museum in London, also in the Harleian Society and in other public libraries of Europe, 30 copies.

I think I may safely assume that those of our lineage who have subscribed and paid for one or more volumes will do their utmost to preserve and transmit the same to later generations. All this being done, we shall have done about all we can for the preservation of our records as known and understood in the year A. D. 1889.

To the small army of cousins who have so cheerfully and substantially seconded my individual efforts of four years to secure and perpetuate our family record, I feel under obligations that I can only repay in kind and not in quantity.

The work we have in hand is not for a day or a year, but for our posterity, and for ages to come. In this beautiful volume we are all recorded—names, dates and parentage.

As the imperfect genealogies of the people of ancient Israel have been preserved for thousands of years, so we may, as it were, look in at the open doors of the households. Why may not your descendants and all men, in the year 10689, peruse this then ancient record, and gathering a mighty host on the third Wednesday of August, beneath the same stupendous and everlasting cataract of Niagara, recall with pride our first attempts to formulate and perpetuate the name and genealogical branchings of our Solomon, whose surname was Hakes. So much regards our history to the present time. But we have still a further duty charged upon us as a family. As the faithful sentinel inquires "what of the night?" some must answer "what of the future?" Ignorant, struggling, despised infant Christian society was furnished by its founder with the key to secure its honor, its blessings and its perpetuity. "Assemble yourselves and break bread one with the other, and let the cup of joy pass around the whole circle." Most simple and magical charm, simply potent to the great end in view, and most worthy of our countenance

and continuance, commanded by our illustrious ensampler to godliness and brotherly love, the Lord Jesus, the Christ. Those who have thoughtlessly interpreted that last command and injunction of Jesus to his disciples to mean a mere formal ceremony, have entirely failed in perceiving its true significance and philosophy, or conceive the exhaustless fountain of wisdom and goodness from which issued the heavenly elixir, the balm of happiness, the utility and power of which has done more than all else to extend through the ages the glad tidings of great joy announced to the simple fishermen of Galilee. The theme, the beauty of the argument, and the power and glory loses nothing in the flight of time.

The words were spoken for all time, the principle is eternal, and all experience but more thoroughly confirms the divine philosophy. We have but to recognize and adopt the principles by an annual gathering, and our association so pleasant and ennobling is an assured success. The duty is not for one and the glory for another. The duty is for all, as the grand results shall be our common honor and glory. Let us begin early to teach the younger members of our lineage to remember and respect, to observe and keep steadfast to the annual assembling, for they must soon take our places.

Four years since we were entire strangers—the family without significance. Now you know your lineage and kindred, and what is more you can prove the same by proper vouchers. Now the family has a name and a station and it has not cost us much. What we have gained is pleasant to possess, and is worth preserving. Keep it where moth or rust corrupteth not, and where thieves cannot break through and steal. The family not only has a name and status, but also a reputation to be maintained, and for that end and purpose each one must feel an individual responsibility. Very likely we may not all be suddenly transformed into kings, princes or angels, because we are of the stock of Solomon. Still we have a good beginning and we must cultivate and append wholesome modern improvements.

As we enjoy advantages not possible to our ancestors, we must charge ourselves with additional responsibilities against the great day of final reckoning.

#### THE BETHLEHEM FERRY.

An Interesting Sketch of this Important Point Along the Lehigh, from 1743 to 1795.

The following sketch of the Bethlehem Ferry is kindly furnished to the Record's historical column by John W. Jordan, of Philadelphia. It is an abstract of a paper read by him before the Historical Society of

Pennsylvania in 1883, and has not been in print. The Record hopes to have another contribution from Mr. Jordan of how the fishery was conducted at Bethlehem, with the returns of the catch, and also the attempt made to use the Lehigh and Delaware for the transportation of goods to and from Philadelphia in provincial days.

#### A History of the Bethlehem Ferry. 1743—1795.

BY JOHN W. JORDAN.

From 1743 to 1763 communication between Bethlehem and the capital of the province was maintained by post-riders and wagon service. The wagon would leave Bethlehem every Monday and go as far as Falkner's Swamp, thence to Germantown by Tuesday evening; on Wednesday to Philadelphia, where it was loaded, and returned to Germantown by night; on Thursday to Falkner's Swamp, and thence to Bethlehem by Friday night.

In September of 1763, the first public conveyance was started, the "stage wagon," leaving the Sun Hotel every Monday, and Philadelphia every Thursday morning, the surveyed distance via Germantown, Chestnut Hill, Whitmarsh, Spring House, Quakertown, Hellertown and Bethlehem being 52 in. 3 qr. 57 pr.

The first grant and patent for a ferry within the present limits of Northampton County was made by the Proprietaries in 1739 to David Martin, of Trenton, N. J., for a "ferry in ye Forks of Delaware," where Easton now stands, to the Jersey side of the Delaware. For a number of years the Moravians at Bethlehem supplied him with his ferry boats. A charter to build a bridge at Easton was not obtained until 1796.

The nearest ferries to Bethlehem were Calder's Ferry, Allentown, with its northern terminus near where the station of the New Jersey Central R. R. is situated, and Currie's Ferry, Freemansburg, located a few hundred yards above the present bridge spanning the Lehigh.

For the better convenience of communication, and the prospective purchases of land on the south side of the Lehigh, added to the appeals of the settlers in the neighborhood, the Moravians considered the project of building a ferry at Bethlehem in 1742. In January of 1743 Henry Antes and his associates selected a convenient location with its southern terminus at a spot still marked by a group of sycamore trees above the present railroad bridge. Prior to the ferry the river was forded and in times of high water travellers were carried over in canoes. The first ferry boat was launched March 11th, 1743.

We have failed to ascertain the names of the ferrymen prior to 1745, when Adam

Schaus (ancestor of the Easton family of the name), who kept a public house near by, consented to manage the ferry for a year. The rates of ferryage, for foot passengers, each way, 3d., and for man and horse, 6d., in the absence of any patent were not demanded, but made by courtesy by travelers; hence the income for the year amounted to but £2.11.2.

In January of 1747, Schaus was succeeded by Matthew Hoffman and John D. Behringer—"the former to take passengers over, the latter to bring them back." It was during their incumbency, that on the night of 18th February, 1747, a sudden rise in the river tore the ferry boat from her moorings and she proved a total loss. On June 8th a second boat, 31½ feet in length, 9½ feet in breadth and 2 feet in depth, was launched. The first grant and patent for a ferry was obtained by the Moravians from the Proprietaries in 1749, the annual rental being five shillings. This was found necessary in order to meet the increasing uncertainty of remuneration from the people scattered on both banks of the Lehigh, and also to secure themselves against a possibility of competition from some rival enterprise in the adjacent neutral waters of the "Lecha." Wharves were built, roads out for the easy ingress and egress of wagons, and the equipment generally improved.

In January of 1753, Daniel Kunckler was appointed ferryman. He filled the position for the longest term of years save one—Valentine Fuehrer—in the history of the ferry, and happening at a time when important events were transpiring in the province, it was an eventful one. The year 1755 was an exciting one in Bethlehem, owing to the Indian war; a painstaking chronicler having recorded that 320 whites and 710 Indians had visited the town. We have failed to ascertain that the revenue of the ferry was benefited, but we did find that on the morning of November 13, at 4 o'clock, the shocks of a strong earthquake were felt for two minutes at the ferry and in the town.

In the spring of 1756, the Proprietaries reconfirmed the patent for the Bethlehem ferry for seven years. The document appears in Moravian records as the "Great Ferrv Patent," and it is also of record, that William Denny, on the 17th day of November, was the first Governor of the Province, who enjoyed the immunity provided for his rank and station by the thoughtful Proprietaries. A new flat boat, forty-two feet in length, new poles and sweeps, and a speaking trumpet were now added to the equipment of the ferry, and the old boat repaired, and held in readiness for any emergency that might arise.

The constantly increasing prosperity of the ferry suggested improvements, hence early in 1758 it was converted into a rope ferry and

continued as such until the erection of the first bridge. A chronicler of that day, in noticing this improvement, observes with somewhat of enthusiasm, "that whereas formerly in times of high water, four men found it difficult to effect a passage in less than half an hour, the flat crosses the ferry by rope usually in *ninety seconds*." John Garrison succeeded Kunckler in September of the last named year, but in 1759 Kunckler was appointed for a second time ferryman. In October of 1761, Francis Steup followed next in succession.

In the year 1763, Augustus H. Fraucke, landlord of the Crown Inn, on the south side of the Lehigh, with Peter Petersen, assumed the management of the ferry, in consideration of £28 per annum. For the year ending 27th of March, 1763, the ferry and appurtenances was inventoried at £185.18.4; the gross receipts, £165.11d.; the cost of maintenance, £92.1.4½, and the net proceeds, £73.18.6½. Valentine Fuehrer, who succeeded Fraucke, was connected with the ferry from 1763 to 1764, and again from 1791 to its final abandonment in September of 1795. His long service, falling as it did within the most eventful period in the history of the country, impels us to give more details than we have of some of his predecessors. Fuehrer was an inmate of the Crown Inn, until the completion of the ferry house in October of 1765. This house stood near the site of what was known as the Exchange Hotel, removed in 1853, and was occupied for some years also by the toll-keepers of the bridge.

In April of 1766, a great freshet visited the Lehigh, but owing to the precautions taken at the ferry, but little damage was done—the river rose ten feet, six inches above low water mark. We may also add, that on December 29th, 1768, the river rose nine feet, six inches, and that from February 16th, 1780, for seven weeks the river was frozen over.

In January of 1767, a new schedule of rates of ferryage were issued, with the exemption to "all persons that come to church at Bethlehem on Sundays or holy days, provided they do not come for the purpose of transaction of any business or carry parcels—in which case they are to pay the usual rates."

A division of the Moravian estates in 1775 led to the transfer of the ferry property to the Bethlehem congregation, who leased it to A. H. Fraucke. During the latter's lease he continued Valentine Fuehrer as ferryman, who, for three years, was assisted by John G. Youngman, formerly a missionary among the Indians. A new ferry boat was also built.

Throughout the war for independence the ferry, as may well be supposed, was the scene of constant activity and excitement. Twice the flat boat was impressed and taken to the Delaware: the first time in December of 1776, to assist in transporting Gen. Lee's division across the Delaware, and the second time in

July of 1777, for the transportation of troops and munitions of war. Between December, of 1775, and March, of 1776, several detachments of the prisoners of war captured in Canada, crossed the ferry en route to Bristol. Gov. John Penn; Gov. Livingstone, of New Jersey; Gen. Gates and staff, Lord Sterling, Glover, Arnold and other officers, members of the Congress, and the sick and wounded for the hospital, crossed and recrossed the ferry during the last named year.

It was during the year 1777 that the resources of the ferry were taxed the greatest. Among those who crossed over were John Hancock, Henry Laurens, Richard Henry Lee, Samuel and John Adams, Generals Schuyler and staff, Greene, Gates, Mifflin, Lafayette, Baron de Kalb, and Capt. Webb, the founder of the Methodist Church in America, a prisoner of war. Washington's private baggage wagons and seven hundred wagons belonging to the army were also ferried over after the battle of Brandywine, and the evacuation of Philadelphia. The year following Mons. Gerard, the French minister, Generals Baron Steuben, Pulaaski, Ethan Allen, and others equally as well known, made use of the ferry. On the 25th July, 1783, Ferryman Fuehrer had the honor of taking over Gen. Washington and two of his aids.

In April of 1784 Valentine Fuehrer retired from the ferry and was succeeded by Massa Warner, who served for seven years.

We have now reached that period in our history, when the days of usefulness of the ferry are to end. The veteran ferryman, Fuehrer, for the second and last time was on July 1, 1791, appointed to manage its concerns, and continued to do so, until the completion of the bridge in September of 1795, when the ferry was abandoned, and he received a gratuity of £10 for his past services.

In January of 1792, the question of substituting a bridge for the ferry was first considered, and on October 3d ensuing, Gov. Mifflin approved "An Act for establishing and building a bridge across the river Lehigh at Bethlehem, etc." Work was begun in the spring of 1794, and despite the delays occasioned by high water, it was opened for travel 19th September, 1795. It was built of hemlock timber, cut in the "Little Spruce Swamp," between Panther Creek and Neesquehoning, uncovered, and cost \$7,800, divided among the stockholders at \$100 per share. Ferryman Fuehrer was the first toll-keeper, to his death in 1808. In 1816, a new and more substantial bridge was built, but it was swept away by the freshet of January 1841. The year following a new covered bridge was opened for travel, but it, too, was partially carried away in 1862, and was succeeded by the present structure. In April of 1827, the present Bethlehem Bridge Company was chartered.

#### AN EARLY LUZERNE JUDGE.

Comments on the Politics of 1815—Strong Compliment to the Editor of the Gleaner.

The following autograph letter from Judge Bradley, one of the early judges of Luzerne County, finds its way to the RECORD. It is addressed to Judge Jesse Fell at Wilkes-Barre, and has many local allusions that will be of interest, even after a lapse of three-quarters of a century. Abraham Bradley was commissioned by Gov. Mifflin about 1791 as associate Judge of Court of Common Pleas in Luzerne County. He was an extensive land-owner here:

[Since the foregoing was in type it is learned that the writer of this letter was not Judge Bradley, but the father of the Judge, both having the same name. Editor.]

WASHINGTON CITY, August 1, 1815, DEAR SIR: Not all the debilities incident to a State of superannuation have yet effaced from my mind the recollection of my good old friends. I have often had it in contemplation to write you, and as often neglected. And when the additional tax of 50 per cent. was attached to postage it seemed to present a new obstacle. And this our wiseheads and warhawks saw proper to blend with the other enormous taxes which necessarily resulted from Madison's holy war, for free trade and Sailor's rights, all which were totally overlooked and forgotten in the Treaty of Ghent. This I take the opportunity of transmitting by my grandson, Abraham B. 3d—And hear I cannot forbear to mention the satisfaction I enjoy in the prosperity of my children. My two sons are doing well. And I have here also three grandsons, Abraham, William and Eleazar Lindsley all (separately) well established in business, and five younger ones coming on, and about as many grand daughters.

Washington City has, like the Phoenix, risen again from its own ashes. It is considered now that the seat of government is permanently fixed. The inhabitants seem to be inspired with new life and energies; more than ever engaged in trade, many new houses in building and many more would be so, but for the scarcity of materials. The value of property has taken a great rise, both in the city and its vicinity. Many architects, mechanics and labourers are employed in rebuilding the public edifices, and the Navy Yard. The Navy Yard it is said, Commodore Stewart has in charge as also the building of two ships of war. The Congress, Public Offices and Navy Yard, all tend and nearly equally to the emolument of the city. A steam boat now plies between the city and Fredericksburg in Va. she goes and comes every day and rests several hours at each landing, uniformly calling at Alexandria (distance 40 miles). The cities of Alexandria

and Georgetown both display much more energy in Trade than Washington, and equally as much in building houses and stores.

Marstellaer, late Cashire of the Merchants bank in Alexandria, being about the close of the war employed by government to build Fort Washington (8 miles below) upon a large scale, has been detected in exhibiting a fraudulent account amounting to 120,000\$ more than he could produce vouchers for, his villany was discovered, and proved, last week, and he absconded. Public frauds are discovered very frequently. You have doubtless seen the account of James Whittlesey, State of N. Y., an agent of government, who had announced that he had been robbed of \$40,000 and that his ball afterwards found hidden in his own house between two beds. And the Gleaner informs us that Joseph Von Sick, Commissioners clerk in Luzerne county, had been detected and committed for robbing the archives of obsolete County orders and passing them off for his own emolument. What will not democracy do?

Surely these among many other instances of democratic fraud, must have a powerful tendency to establish the integrity of Federalism.

We begin to look out, with some degree of anxiety for news from the contending powers of Europe. Murat has already gone over the dam; and it is to be hoped the Corsican bloodhound may soon meet with a similar fate. But this must depend much on the Sentiments of the French nation, if any, sentiments they have that are permanent. For if France is united in favour of Bonapart, the allies cannot conquer it. But if France is divided, the allies will conquer Napoleon and his army. It is to be feared that rivers of blood must be shed in the contest.

I understand that Wilkesbarre is growing rapidly and all the country around it, in a flourishing State. Indeed the nation at large feels the happy effects of Peace altho the whole term of the war was a term of retrograde, and the enormity of the debt with which it has saddled us will be a long and heavy drawback upon its energies.

We had a hard winter, a cold and dry spring, and the Summer extremely hot and dry. Our gardens are nearly destroyed with the drought; and unless we are favored very soon with plenteous rains, little or no corn can come to maturity. Indian Corn is 125 to 150 cents per bushel and the present crops look gloomy in the extreme. General health prevails in this country, since warm weather came on, but in the cold season the epidemic which has ravaged almost every section of the United States was very rife and swept of great numbers, on every side of us but it was our good fortune to escape it. I have enjoyed a very comfortable state of health from my first arrival. Although I passed my 84th

winter in a climate deemed moderate, it had like to have been too much for me. You doubtless recollect that I used to be troubled much with sore eyes; they have never been well yet; after trying a great variety remedies, eleven months ago, I gave up all, and made use of nothing but cold water; twice in the meantime I have tried my old applications and found they made them worse.

I have the trouble of soaking them frequently every day, and I find them more comfortable this summer than they have been for several previous years. Two or three years ago I was at your house and understood that you was sick in New Jersey, but not long after was gratified with the news that you had recovered and returned home. Should be glad to hear from you once in a while, when opportunity offers. My best respects to Mrs. Fell and all enquiring friends.

Your friend and most obedient

ABRAHAM BRADLEY.

JUDGE FELL, Wilkesbarre.

P. S. The editor of the *Gleaner* has acquired the highest reputation among all ranks of people, and served his country and the cause he has espoused at least equal to any editor in the United States. The humour and pleasantry with which he fills his columns, serve more to the promotion of good morals than the most powerful arguments of the superb genius. And when he touches upon politics, under the signature of Uncle John, the humour and sarcasm are almost irresistible. His productions are copied into the most of the papers from Maine to Ohio, and some of the to the South. Even the *National Intelligencer* cannot withhold, with all his democratic austerity, from republishing those pieces which have no acrimony against his beloved system of Democracy. Every one is charmed with the humour.

Abraham Bradley son of the writer of the above was one of the early Judges of Luzerne county, having been appointed in 1791. He had been admitted to the bar in 1788. He was a native of Litchfield, Conn., and at the age of 21 was admitted to the bar of Luzerne county. Three years later he was appointed to the judgeship, though he did not remain long in Wilkes-Barre. He removed to Washington where he became private secretary to Timothy Pickering in the postoffice department. After holding the position for several years he was appointed assistant postmaster general, serving from 1800 to 1830. He died at Washington in 1835.

# The Historical Record

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## REQUIESCAT IN PACE.

### THE LATE FATHER O'HARAN LAIN AT REST.

### IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES.

The Enormous Crowd at the Church—The Services in Detail and the Eulogy by the Bishop—The Music—The Funeral Cortège—The List of Attending Priests—The Ceremonies in Detail—Resolutions.

Father Dennis O'Haran, pastor of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church of this city, died Sept. 28. His illness dates from Wednesday, when a congestive chill was followed by unmistakable symptoms of pleuro-pneumonia and heart failure. Hope was not abandoned until the last, but even the most sanguine watchers beside the bed of the sufferer knew that his condition was very critical. Dr. Mayer, who was first called, bade all to hope for favorable symptoms, but at the same time he announced that the worst might be expected. On Thursday the patient's condition became very alarming, the pulse being very high and vitality becoming exhausted. Bishop O'Hara, for many years an intimate friend of Father O'Haran, came to Wilkes-Barre at once, and other prominent clergymen of the diocese attended also. Late Thursday afternoon the last sacraments of the church were administered to the dying priest by Rev. Father Nagle, of St. Nicholas' Church. A slight improvement on Friday night was followed by an alarming relapse during the early morning hours of Saturday. It was then that all hope was abandoned and the attending clergymen and Sisters of Charity waited with the physicians for the final summons. About 8 o'clock on Saturday morning the sufferer seemed entirely conscious, and the merciful freedom from pain which immediately precedes dissolution was his. He was fully conscious that he was about to die, and said so to Bishop O'Hara.

Still for two hours the vital spark lingered. About 10 o'clock the pulse grew more feeble. The priest, conscious of the approach of the final moment, raised his hand to his forehead and made the sign of the cross. His arm dropped helplessly by his side and without a struggle he passed peacefully away.

Father O'Haran was called from Philadelphia to the charge of St. Mary's in 1868 by his friend, Bishop O'Hara. Here at once his great ability as a faithful worker became known and appreciated. At that time his congregation worshipped in the old church on Canal Street. Father O'Haran's first efforts were directed to building the present edifice on Washington Street. By his energy and perseverance the church was at once paid for and was entered free from any incumbrances. That accomplished, he turned his attention to the erection of churches in near-by towns and the same success attended these efforts. Nearly all these now flourishing branches of the church can point to the work of Father O'Haran with gratitude.

He was a straightforward, forcible preacher. His efforts in the pulpit were attended with the success incident upon deep convictions of the truths he uttered. He sought force rather than polished oratory and succeeded in impressing himself upon his hearers in a manner which always comes from deep earnestness.

But as a pastor he entered the affections of his people to an even greater degree. The opportunities afforded by the Roman Church to her priests of offering sympathy, advice and in imparting comfort and strength to the weak hearted made him a power for good. The best evidence of this, perhaps, is the realization of loss manifested in various ways by his parishioners. The expression of sorrow and the silent grief which pervaded the church yesterday when Rev. Father Dunn spoke so feelingly of the deceased rector indicated that the sense of grief was of no ordinary import. The church was draped inside and out with the signs of mourning and the load of grief was in a measure relieved from many hearts by fast falling tears.

As a business man, for the priesthood demands this characteristic, Father O'Haran was notably efficient and able. The Catholic people of this community are not by any means all who sorrow. Father O'Haran's broad catholicity made him known and beloved among Protestants as well, and, indeed,

many of those who will cherish his memory most dearly are those whose church affiliations were elsewhere.

Many telegrams of condolence and sympathy have poured in from all parts of the country since the sad event became known.

Father O'Haran was born in Ireland, Fermanagh County, in 1831. He received his academic training in his native town, and his theological studies were pursued at Overbrook, near Philadelphia, in St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. He was only 23 when ordained by Archbishop Wood. It was while studying theology that he met his lifelong friend, now Bishop O'Hara. The latter was then an instructor at the seminary. Father O'Haran's first parish was in Easton. Thence he went to St. Paul's B. C. Church, of Philadelphia, and from there to St. Mary's, Wilkes-Barre, in 1868. He has several cousins who are clergymen in Ireland, one of these is Rev. Dr. Dennis O'Haran, private secretary to Cardinal Moran, of Australia. With this cousin the aged mother of deceased lives. She is now 89 years old.

#### THE FUNERAL.

The remains of the late Father O'Haran were taken to St. Mary's Church Tuesday noon by bearers and a guard of honor from the Emerald B. A. Association, St. Aloysius and Father Mathew societies, composed of Charles Leighton, Joseph P. Burns, H. P. Sharp, Bernard Donohue, J. C. Leighton, J. J. Gallagher, O. J. Gallagher, P. Cavanaugh, John F. and William Dougher, R. J. Meekins, J. A. Keating, D. A. Mackin, J. F. O'Malley, Thos. and James Mack, A. C. Campbell, Dr. Frank Lenahan, John F. McGinty, Thomas Fitzsimmons, O. J. Kelley, J. M. Boland, William Mack, P. J. Burke, Austin Walsh, John Shea, John Gorman, Wm. O'Brien and Wm. McLaughlin.

A platform about fifteen feet square had been erected over the tops of the first few pews along the middle aisle and upon this the black broadcloth casket, silver trimmed, was placed. Long before the hour announced for opening the doors, an immense throng surged around on the sidewalk, up and down and across the street. Several thousand people stood there awaiting the signal of the opened doors. At 2 o'clock they swung aside and the immense gathering pressed forward. At the vestibule stood several members of the guard of honor, and members of this guard were stationed along the centre aisle, along which the throng passed toward the altar. On reaching the platform the guard assisted the people to mount the steps, at the same time parting the stream of on-comers into two parts, each passing on different sides of the casket. The body of the dead priest was propped up so that the features could be

more plainly seen. The face looks calm and peaceful and very natural. The body was clothed in the cassock with the beretta upon the head. The hands were clasped about a chalice of gold.

There were heavy black draperies about the altar and lighted candles burned on either side of the casket. On the raised platform were also some beautiful floral designs, including a harp, wreath, anchor and several others. The St. Aloysius Society gave a pillow with the inscription, "Our Spiritual Director," and that of the Father Matthew Society was the "Sacred Heart." The Emerald Society also furnished a floral design.

The people continued to throng into the church hour after hour, and the numbers did not seem to diminish. The centre aisle was completely filled and progress was necessarily slow. Everything was well managed and there was no disorder or confusion. Many after viewing the remains took seats in the auditorium or the galleries and remained there either at their devotions or quietly watching the people as they passed in and out.

The crowd did not perceptibly diminish until well along in the evening. Those who entered the church included every class and condition of people, Catholics and Protestants as well.

#### THE FUNERAL SERVICES.

Father O'Haran was laid to rest Wednesday amid all the pomp and ceremony of the church, which owed him distinction for the splendid manner in which he vitalized its precepts and honored its dignity and character.

Surrounded by a vast concourse of loving friends, who esteemed him for his great worth, exalted character and distinguished piety, he was tenderly consigned to the grave and to a blessed immortality.

Never before in the history of the city was there seen so large a funeral and so many sad faces following a beloved one to its last resting place. All classes of society joined the stately and melancholy procession, all creeds and nationalities helped to honor the occasion, for there was a universal desire to pay tribute to one who during his eventful life did so much to help the needy, contribute to the great course of Christianity and to promote the moral worth of an important element of the community.

Father O'Haran performed a great and lasting work as pastor of St. Mary's Church, and his reward followed in being tenderly loved by his parishioners and esteemed highly by the community in which he lived. The good done was not interred with his mortal remains, but will live long to stimulate others to equally honor the positions in which God has placed them.

The front of St. Mary's Church was solidly banked with people early yesterday morning,



## THE HISTORICAL RECORD.

all anxious to secure some advantage in seeing and hearing the last offices for the dead. Travel through Washington Street, from Northampton to South, was blocked by a cordon of police during the hours of the services. There was no clamor for admittance—everything was quiet as the occasion befitted, and when at last the great doors swung aside the eager rush was moulded into a quiet inpouring, through the efficiency of the guards and ushers. Every possible arrangement for order and convenience had been attended to, and the system was entirely creditable. A section in the body of the church had been reserved for a number of clergymen and laymen of all denominations, including some of the best known men about town. In this space were seated Judges Rice and Woodward, Dr. Frear, of the First Baptist Church; Dr. Hodge, of the First Presbyterian; Hon. H. W. Palmer, Hon. C. D. Foster, W. S. McLean, Esq., Rev. H. E. Hayden, of St. Stephen's; Major C. M. Conyngham, Alex. Mitchell, Dr. Wagner, B. Burgunder, T. H. Phillips, Rev. F. K. Levan, of Zion's Reformed Church; Charles Parish, Mayor C. B. Sutton, and many others.

About 9:30 the Sisters of Charity, including a number from Scranton, filed into the sanctuary and seated themselves at the right. Soon thereafter the long procession of clergymen in cassock and surplice, and preceded by the bishop of the diocese, entered the sanctuary. After kneeling a moment before the shrine, they assumed their places on either side of the altar. The number included Revs. E. A. Garvey, Williamsport, Pa.; G. F. McMurray, Dunmore; J. J. Farrell, Drifton; Wm. P. O'Donnell, Parsons; M. B. Donlan, Dunmore; M. Millane, Scranton; F. Walsh, Archbald; B. Gramlevitz, Nanticoke; P. Ambremitz, Hazleton; M. F. Falliher, Drifton; P. F. McNally, St. Joseph's, Susquehanna County; T. J. Bea, Sugar Notch; M. E. Lynott, Wellsboro, Tioga County, Pa.; T. Donoghue, Plymouth; John Bergan, Kingston; James McHugh, Scranton; M. J. Manly, Moscow; P. Murphy, Blossburg; X. Kaiser, Dushore; G. J. Stopper, Scranton; M. Power, Lock Haven; P. J. McManus, Green Ridge; F. Fricker, Scranton; John Steinkirchour, T. Omerford, Tioga, Bradford County; D. Green, Minooka; R. A. Walsh, Olyphant; John Greeves, Pittston; E. S. Phillips, Plains; John Bergrath, White Haven; M. J. Hoban, Ashley; James S. Fagan, Susquehanna; James Jordan, Olyphant; W. H. Connolly, Pleasant Valley; P. J. Broderick, Susquehanna; N. J. McManus, Scranton Holy Rosary Church; J. Dougherty, Honesdale; John Costello, Athens; N. Forre, Hazleton; F. Mack, Plymouth; J. Coroner, Pittston; P. Christ, Scranton; H. O'Reilly, Shenandoah; D. O'Malley, Honesdale; P. C. Hurst, Lovelton; M. O'Reilly, Danville; John Judge,

Mt. Pleasant; P. Moran, Andenreid; D. J. Lafferty, Jas. A. Connolly, Eugene McMahon, Ologher, Ireland; Thos. Brehony, Eckley; Michael Cramer, Avoca; B. F. Driscoll, Nicholson; J. L. Shanley, Archbald; Thomas J. Maeren, Andenreid; J. Dunn, Wilkes-Barre; J. A. Moffitt, Wilkes-Barre; John J. Lally, Friendsville; A. McAndrew, St. John's, Scranton; Wm. Brehl, St. Mary's, Pittston; Peter McGucken, St. Francis', Nanticoke; E. J. Melley, Olyphant; Thos. Kernan, Parsons; J. J. Gumisky, Hazleton; John Finnan, Pittston; J. Chulso, Scranton; Jos. Hussey, F. F. Coffey, J. Curran, Carbondale.

Immediately was begun the solemn Litany of the Saints, with Father Kernan, of Parsons, and Father Moylan, of Scranton, acting as leaders. The antiphony from the priests on either side rolled out in rich volume. It was not an attempt at volume, owing to the nature of the services, but it was confined within certain limits of force. The stately solemn effect can be imagined, yet but poorly described. The Solemn High Mass of Requiem for the repose of the soul of the dead followed. Very Rev. Father Finnan, of Pittston, was celebrant, with Rev. Father Nagle, of St. Nicholas, as deacon, Rev. Father Kelley, D. D., of Towanda, as subdeacon, and Rev. Father P. F. Coffey, of Carbondale, master of ceremonies. The entire mass was intoned, as the Litany had been and the effect, in the dim light, with the ecclesiastical look of the sanctuary where sat the priests, the sombre drapings, the lighted candelabra, and the reverential silence, save for the stately chant in unison, the impressive magnificence of the Gregorian Tone, filled the whole place with an atmosphere consonant with the entire solemnity of the occasion. The responses of the choir in a minor key added to the impressiveness of the ritual. A quartet consisting of Miss Annie Murphy, Miss Sally Bowman, Wm. O'Neill and A. C. Campbell sung the well known Latin hymn "Dies Irae Dies Illa," "Day of Wrath, that Fearful Day."

At the conclusion of the mass the Right Reverend Bishop O'Hara assumed the chasuble and the white mitre and began the funeral sermon.

The address was full of tenderness, the tribute of a life-long friend to the dead, and an earnest appeal to regard the lessons taught by the death of a servant of God. The bishop's words were uttered slowly and with distinctness, but at times his voice was husky with emotion.

After this tribute had been finished the bishop, accompanied by several of the clergymen went upon the platform upon which the casket lay. Then began the ritualistic funeral service proper. This was intoned, as all the preceding service had been, the bishop

reading and the body of clergymen within the sanctuary making the responses. This finished, the bishop passed around the casket, sprinkling the body with holy water, and afterward burning the incense, the crozier was supported at the head. The clergymen now passed on the platform slowly and looked their last upon the lifeless clay. They repassed into the sanctuary, bowed before the altar, and fled into the sacristy beyond. A number of priests gathered closely around the foot of the bier, momentarily shutting out the view while the golden chalice was removed from the death clasp of the body, and the silken pillows removed from under the head, thus allowing the remains to sink into the casket. At this time the sobbing in the interior of the church became almost universal, as the beloved features were hidden forever from sight, and as the lid of the casket was replaced the signs of universal grief were touching in the extreme. Father Melley passed into the side aisle and saw that the people fled out as rapidly as was consistent with good order. After the way had been partially cleared, six priests took up the casket and preceded by the pall bearers the solemn procession fled slowly out of the church, down the centre aisle.

The pall bearers were selected from among the earliest parishioners and co-workers of the dead priest, and they were James Campbell, E. P. Coogrove, Daniel Showlin, Michael Kane, Patrick Fagan, Martin Kirwan, James McDade and Richard Walsh. The carriers were Rev. Fathers E. J. Lafferty, Timothy Donohue, Thomas Rea, John O'Malley, Eugene Garney and John Laughran.

During the last part of the services Miss Kitty McCabe sang "Angels Ever Bright and Fair." This was followed by the plaintive air, "Flee as a Bird to Your Mountain." The immense crowd fled slowly out of the church, this being necessary on account of the great crush. The auditorium was first emptied and afterward the occupants of the great gallery passed out.

#### THE FUNERAL PROCESSION.

The first toll of the bell from the steeple of St. Mary's pealed forth upon the ears of the assembled thousands at precisely 11:50. The doors of the church were thrown open and instantly the great mass of people began moving. At this time the parade of societies, which had formed with right resting on South Street, was set in motion and began the march to the cemetery. Up South Street they moved, down Franklin to Wood, across to Main and thence to the grave. All along the route, especially on South Street, a

solid mass of people formed a line on either side. The marching was with slow and steady tread and it could easily be seen by the marching and the expression of the paraders that this was no celebration, but an occasion of great solemnity. The following societies, numbering 2,500 men, participated: A muffled drum corps leading, followed by the St. Francis Pioneer Corps; St. Peter's Society of St. Nicholas Church; St. Joseph's Society of St. Nicholas Parish; St. Nicholas Society of St. Nicholas Church; Society of the Polish Sacred Heart of Jesus; St. John's Polish Catholic Society; Branch 107, E. B. A.; Emmett Rifles, of Plains; Father Mathew Cadets; Father Mathew Society; Branch 33, E. B. A.; Branch 41, E. B. A., of Ashley; St. Aloysius Society, of Sugar Notch; St. Aloysius Society, of Plains; St. Aloysius Society, of Ashley, and St. Aloysius Society, of Wilkes-Barre, and St. Mary's Sodality. Following the societies came the carriages with pall bearers, the hearse, carriages containing priests, carriages containing sisters from the convents, and friends in carriages. The conveyances numbered one hundred and twenty, of which more than eighty were double rigs.

The cemetery was completely jammed with people, and when the remains were deposited beside the vault thousands pressed around the spot. The ritualistic service was here followed, and the final benediction pronounced by Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Hara. Then the sorrowful multitude retraced their steps to the city.

Bishop O'Hara has appointed Father Comisky, of Hazleton, and Father Melley, of Olyphant, to take charge of St. Mary's parish until a pastor is appointed.

#### Died at a Ripe Old Age.

Mrs. Emily Keiser died at her home in Ashley on Sunday, at the age of 82. She was born on Canal Street, Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 20, 1817, and was a daughter of David Downing. She was married to Thomas Keiser May 19, 1835, by Rev. Mr. Stockton. She was a member of the old Franklin Street M. E. Church. Shortly after marriage she moved to Ashley and lived there until seven years ago, when she moved to Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre. In April, 1899, she moved back to Ashley. She enjoyed good health until about six weeks ago, when she began to fail, and died Sunday night at 9:35. She leaves three daughters and two sons. In 1872 her husband was killed on the C. R. R. of N. J. She also leaves 18 grand-children and six great-grand-children.

**DR. W. H. OLIN'S SUDDEN DEATH.**

**Called to His Final Rest While on a Visit in Michigan -- Sketch of His Life and Character.**

The very many friends and acquaintances of Dr. William H. Olin will be shocked to hear of his sudden death which occurred Tuesday, September 16, while he was enjoying his annual vacation and visiting relatives in Michigan. By the death of Dr. Olin the Wyoming Conference loses one of its most able members, and the Methodist Episcopal pulpit one of its most substantial men. He was about 68 years old, his birth having occurred in Laurens, Otsego County, N. Y., Jan. 5, 1821. He was educated at Cazenovia Seminary and studied law with Ebenezer Dewey at Laurens, Judge Cook, at Oneonta and Hon. W. J. Hough, of Cazenovia. He was admitted to the bar in 1844. After practicing six years he entertained strong religious convictions which led him to study for the ministry. He was admitted to the Oneida Conference in 1851 and he filled various appointments in Utica, Norwich and Ithaca and other places until 1860, when he was transferred to the Wyoming Conference, being stationed at the Centenary Church of Binghamton, N. Y. Here he served what was until recently the time limit—3 years—then served the M. E. Church at Waverly, N. Y., from which after two years he was called to the pulpit of the old Franklin Street M. E. Church, of this city. While here he was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Syracuse University. After his pastoral term was finished in this city he was appointed presiding elder of the Wyoming District for four years, at the end of which time he returned to the Centenary Church in Binghamton. Here he served but two years, when he was called to a presiding eldership—this time over the Binghamton District. His term in this position was finished in 1888, and he was then made presiding elder of the Oneonta District. He was engaged in this district work when the sudden summons of death came.

In 1864 he was a member of the General Conference Committee on the State of the Church, and was on the sub-committee which drafted the resolutions to President Lincoln. These attracted a deal of attention at that gloomy period of national history.

The record of work in the Wyoming Conference attests his talent as a preacher and as a manager also. He had great executive ability and his very nature included the quality of leadership. He was ambitious, he was energetic, and his readiness of speech in argument made him a power on the floor of the conference. During its session he was always to be found near the front of that assembly, and near the chair of the presiding

bishop. From here he would rise quickly in debate, turn around and face the conference, and in a strong, rich voice state his views of the issue involved. It has been often asserted that Dr. Olin's advocacy of a measure was sufficient to insure its adoption. This statement is doubtless overdrawn, but there is much in it. His commanding figure, tall and finely proportioned, seemed a fit companion for his power of utterance. The younger members of the conference were accustomed to look up to him as judicious and experienced. Of late years his hair, surmounting a massive head, had turned as white as snow, and he was by odds the most noticeable figure on the conference floor. He gathered about him a strong circle of friends upon his entry into the conference in which most of his life labor was concentrated, and his candidacy for various positions of honor was always thoroughly canvassed by these.

His enthusiastic efforts in behalf of the temperance cause attracted the attention of the Prohibitionists, and he was during his second pastorate at the Centenary Church of Binghamton elected to the New York State Legislature. The Republicans nominated him for a second term, but did not receive the full endorsement of the Prohibitionists as was expected. The candidate had, in addition to the assaults of his political enemies, the vigorous opposition of many of his church people, who strongly deprecated the idea of a clergyman becoming identified with any political faction. But he had his own ideas of duty, and such a strong nature was not intimidated by opposition. In fact, he rose in all his assertiveness when opposed and many knew how he could deal telling blows in argument.

The admiration and close following of his friends served him splendidly in several contests for election to the General Conference—the highest ecclesiastical honor given by any single conference. His supporters at once recognized his ability in debate, his thorough knowledge of church polity, and his qualifications for leadership. Rightly divining that he would creditably represent his constituency, he was chosen a delegate to the General Conference sessions soon after he became a member of the Oneida Conference in 1860. When his membership began in the Wyoming Conference he was still the recipient of this honor, and he has been a ministerial delegate to this representative assembly of American Methodism no less than eight times—a record that very few men have ever obtained. At the last general conference, held in the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, he was a conspicuous figure in the deliberations, and he carried considerable influence. During this session he was chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy. He has also

served on the committees representing the general interests of the church such as that of the Missionary Society, and of the Book Concern. At the last general conference he was a candidate for the office of a bishop of the church, as he had been once or twice previously, but he did not succeed in the matter, although strongly pushed by his friends. Doubtless, if his reputation had been more general, or in any degree proportionate to his influence in his own ministerial assembly, he might have attained this most desirable distinction. But although he was so well cared for by appreciative friends, he did not allow this ever to hamper his own activity. He sought the various distinctions to which reference has been made honestly and avowedly, and because he realized his power to do yeoman service to the cause of the church. In this respect, therefore, he was his own best champion. He was always a thorough believer in the doctrines and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church and would be termed a conservative in this regard, yet at the last general conference session, realizing the absolute desirability of radical changes in church polity, he became identified with several of the successful movements, notably that of the extension of the time limit for clergymen and presiding elders.

Dr. Olin was invariably faithful to his friends and always retained their good will, besides constantly adding to his influence by the friendship of new members of the conference. Naturally a recognized leader, such as he was, must always alienate a few strong natures, and there are some who have felt keenly the force of his opposition, both personally and as members of a ministerial body. But the deceased has entered into final rest with as few enemies as possible for such a strong spirit. Whether or not he was considerate alike to his friends and those who were not his supporters is not a question for discussion here. The world must judge him by his continued success among men.

This hasty sketch has had more to do with him as a leader in church deliberative assemblies, than with the pastoral relation. This is only natural, for he is best known in the former instances, and in these his individuality became recognized and established. He was, however, as has been said, a preacher of recognized ability and a good pastor.

During his seven years' residence in Wilkes-Barre he made hosts of friends, and the sad news of his sudden demise will be the subject of sorrowful comment in many families, where he was always a most welcome pastor, adviser and visitor.

Unfortunately his last few years were rendered somewhat uneasy on account of financial loss. He had deposited a neat sum

as a guard against enforced feebleness, in the bank at South Waverly, N. Y. This institution was obliged to make an inglorious assignment about two years ago, and the fruit of his hard work—the provision for the future, was swept entirely away, leaving him but a gloomy prospect in case of falling vital power.

He was possessed of a robust frame and a naturally vigorous constitution. Physical ailment has never interfered with his work, and his friends were often astonished to note the remarkable effectiveness of a man of his age, hoping, too, that he might be spared for many years of work. But the inscrutable decree has gone forth and a bright light has gone out from the sight of men to greet the vision of friends and relatives who have preceded him in gaining the eternal rest. He is survived by his second wife, his first having died long since.

**Death of Dr. Bedford.**

The *Scranton Truth* of Sept. 4 says: "Dr. Andrew Bedford died at 11:45 last night at his home in Waverly. He was in his ninetieth year and had been active until a few months ago.

"Dr. Bedford was born at Wyoming, Luzerne County, on the 29d of April, 1800. He graduated from the Yale College medical school. He began to practice at Dundaff in 1826. A year later he moved to Abington Centre, now Waverly Borough. He was one of the first directors of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. He and Col. George W. Scranton, for whom this city is named, were warm friends and they spent several winters in Harrisburg together in the interests of legislation for the company. In the Constitutional Convention of 1857-58 he and the late Chief Justice George W. Woodward represented Luzerne County. Judge Daniel Agnew, of Philadelphia, is now the only surviving member of the convention.

"Dr. Bedford served as prothonotary of Luzerne County from 1840 to 1846. He was the first burgess of Waverly. He also held the office of postmaster and other places of trust in the borough. In politics he was a Democrat and he felt much interest in the work of that party. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is survived by six children—George R., a Wilkes-Barre attorney; Benjamin B., of Tiffin, O.; Theodore W., of Baltimore, Md.; Sterling, of Waverly; Andrew P., of Scranton, deputy collector in the Twelfth Internal Revenue District, and Mrs. Edward F. Leighton, of Binghamton.

"The funeral will take place from the house at 2:30 on Friday afternoon."

## BIOGRAPHY OF JUDGE DANA.

A Paper Read Before the Historical Society  
September 13.

[By Sheldon Reynolds.]

Judge Edmund L. Dana, late president of the Osterhout Free Library, died at his residence in this city, Thursday evening, April 25, 1899, in the 73d year of his age.

He was a descendant in the fifth generation of Jacob Dana, Cambridge, Mass., 1640. One branch of the family removed to Wyoming prior to the year 1773, and became prominent in the affairs of the settlement and in the struggles that ensued to hold possession of the territory under the claim of the Susquehanna Company, as well as in defence of this outpost against the attacks of the public enemy. Anderson Dana, the great grandfather of the subject of this sketch, a lawyer by profession, was one of the representatives of Westmoreland County, or Wyoming, in the Assembly of Connecticut, and in many ways proved himself a useful and valuable member of the community. Returning to his home from the Assembly on the eve of the Battle of Wyoming, he, together with other members of his family, took part in that engagement, and was slain in battle July 3d, 1778.

Judge Dana was the son of Asa Stevens Dana, and was born in this city January 20, 1817. After a preparatory course of study of three years at the Wilkes-Barre Academy, he entered the sophomore class of Yale College, and was graduated A. B. from that institution in due course, in the year 1838, and subsequently received the degree A. M. Upon leaving college he found employment as civil engineer in the work of the survey and building of the North Branch Canal, extending from Pittston to the New York State line. After one year spent in this occupation he entered as a law student the office of Hon. Luther Kidder, and on April 6th, 1861, having completed the prescribed course of study, was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County.

At the time of the breaking out of the hostilities between the United States and Mexico, he was the captain of the Wyoming Artillerists, a military organization formed a few years prior to that event, and in response to the government's call for troops he offered the services of his company. They were accepted, and attached to the infantry branch of the service, the company was mustered as Co. I, First Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. Under the command of Capt. Dana, the company numbering 124 men set out for Pittsburg, the rendezvous, and arriving there was, on the 16th December, 1846, sworn into the service of the United States, and proceeded by the way of New Orleans to the seat of war. They there joined the army under Gen. Scott and participated in many of the

battles and sieges incident to that masterly advance from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, the brilliant conception and successful issue of which reflected alike the military genius of Scott, and the mettle, discipline, and courage of the troops under his command.

Capt. Dana, with his company, was with the army at the debarkation at Vera Cruz; an undertaking made memorable by reason of the unrivaled skill with which nearly 12,000 men, fully armed and equipped, within the space of seven hours, effected a landing in open boats, upon a shore unprotected from the sweep of the surf, and in the face of the enemy, without the loss of a single life or other casualty. He was engaged in the siege of Vera Cruz immediately following the debarkation, and saw the surrender of that city together with its famous stronghold, the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. He took part also in the decisive battle of Cerro Gordo, and in the capture of Perote Castle and the cities of Jalapa, Pueblo, and the Pass of El Pinal.

After the arduous and brilliant series of operations, occupying but a few months in time in their execution, had brought within the army's grasp that grand objective point toward which these historic places served as stepping stones, he had the satisfaction of witnessing the fall of the City of Mexico and the happy termination of the war.

There are several incidents in his Mexican service worthy of remark, as showing in a more especial manner the merit of the man, and its recognition by his superiors in rank. Upon his arrival in one of the advance transports at the island of Lobos, which had been selected as a rendezvous for, the troops proceeding to Vera Cruz, he was detailed to the important work of the survey of its harbor; a work of great responsibility, and requiring accurate knowledge of a special nature. He proved himself well fitted by education and experience for this duty by the prompt and efficient manner in which he performed it.

In the charge up the steep and broken approaches of El Pinal Pass he commanded the assaulting column, and was among the first to cross over the defensive works of the enemy.

In the defense of Pueblo during the thirty days' siege of that city by Mexican forces under Generals Bea and Santa Ana, Col. Childs the commandant, says in his official report in reference to the behavior of the garrison which included Capt. Dana's company: "Never did troops endure more fatigue nor exhibit more patriotic spirit and gallantry. Officers and soldiers vied with each other to be honored martyrs in their country's cause." In addition to this commendation of the official report, Capt. Dana received special mention in general orders for ef-

iciency and soldierly bearing during this investment.

After the declaration of peace with Mexico he returned to Wilkes-Barre and resumed the practice of law. His taste for military affairs led him to continue his connection with the militia of the State, and notwithstanding the cares of his growing practice at the bar, he was able to devote much attention to the management of these organizations. In recognition of his efforts in this behalf he was promoted to the rank of major general of the Ninth Division Pennsylvania militia, which office he held at the beginning of the late war. In 1863 Gov. Curtin appointed him commandant of Camp Luzerne, a camp of organization and instruction situated in the neighborhood of Luzerne Borough, where most of the men recruited in this vicinity were mustered into service and organized as the 143d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and of which regiment he was elected colonel, October 18th, 1863. In the following month the regiment broke camp and proceeded to the front, where it was attached to the 2d Brigade, 3d Division of the First Army Corps under command of Gen. John F. Reynolds.

The more important events of the war in which Col. Dana and his regiment participated were the battles of Chancellorsville, May 2d, 3d and 4th, 1863; Gettysburg, July 1st, 2d and 3d; the Wilderness, May 5, 1864; the first battle of Hatcher's Run, 28th and 29th October, 1864; the Weldon Raid, Dec. 7th to 12th, 1864; the second battle of Hatcher's Run, 6th and 7th Feb., 1865.

At Gettysburg the command of the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 1st Corps, devolved upon Col. Dana and the brigade was engaged throughout the three days' battle. Gen. Doubleday, of the U. S. Army, in a recent letter addressed to the president of the association of 143d Pa. Vols., refers to Col. Dana and his command in these words: "Had I known at the time the division was formed that Col. Dana had already had some military experience in Mexico I should have assigned him to the command of a brigade, but I did not learn this fact until after the battle of Gettysburg.

"What the regiment accomplished on that ever-to-be-remembered 1st day of July, 1863, has probably never been excelled in the annals of our long and sanguinary struggle for the supremacy of the Union and the Constitution. Holding a central point in my line, assailed by overwhelming forces from the North and West, they maintained their position from 11 a. m. to 4 p. m. against triple their number of the best troops of the Confederacy." The historian of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, Bates, in describing this sanguinary engagement, says: "Col. Dana throughout the severe and

protracted contest moved on foot through the fire along the line wherever his presence was required. When all hope of longer holding the ground was gone the brigade fell back through the town and took position on Cemetery Hill where the shattered ranks of the two corps which had been engaged were reformed."—(Bates His. Pa. Vols., vol. IV, p. 483.)

At the battle of the Wilderness, Col. Dana received a gunshot wound and was taken prisoner; thence he was sent as prisoner of war to Macon, Ga., and afterwards to Charleston, S. C., where he, together with a number of other officers, was exposed to the fire of the Federal forces besieging that city as a measure of retaliation adopted by the Confederate authorities. Aug. 3, 1864, his exchange was effected, and, rejoining his regiment, then in front of Petersburg, he took part in the actions and operations that followed the investment of that city.

In one of these actions wherein the advance of the outposts, picket and skirmish line of the 5th Corps was committed to his command, Gen. Baxter, commanding the 5th Division, expressed to him in an official letter his satisfaction with the manner in which he had acquitted himself of the task, saying: "Your duties were important, arduous and of a highly responsible character, all of which you performed with credit to yourself and the command."

Early in 1865 Col. Dana's regiment, much reduced in strength by hard service, was assigned to special duty in Baltimore, and later at Hart's Island, where it remained until the close of the war. Col. Dana was detailed to court-martial duty during several months after the cessation of hostilities, and was honorably mustered out of the service Aug. 23d, 1865, with the rank of brevet brigadier general conferred for honorable and meritorious services.

Upon his return home after an absence of three years he again applied himself to the practice of law, and continued his professional duties until his election to the bench in 1867. At the first election under the statute granting to this judicial district an additional law judge he was chosen to that honorable place, the duties of which he discharged during the full term of ten years. Prior to the expiration of his term of office the Democratic convention nominated him for the second time as additional law judge, and the Republican convention expressed its assent to his candidacy in the following words: "This convention having entire confidence in the learning, integrity, and ability of Edmund L. Dana, as illustrated by his administration of the office of additional law judge of this district in the past ten years, cordially recommends him to the voters of Luzerne

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County for re-election." The action of the conventions of the two political parties and the almost unanimous commendation of the bar seemed to assure his continuance in the position for another term. In that year, however, the Labor-Greenback party, being a combination of two parties, as its name indicates, gathering within its ranks the discontented of all parties, was enabled, by means of a most efficient organization and a canvass stimulated by the grievances growing out of the widespread riots and disorder of that time, to elect all of its candidates in opposition to those of the two older parties.

At the age of 61 he retired from the bench and found relaxation from the cares of office and a busy life among his books, indulging a highly cultivated taste for literature and art in the study and contemplation of these subjects; though the calls upon his time and attention arising from business relations and public duty were not suffered to pass unobserved. During this period he served several years as a member of the City Council of Wilkes-Barre, a part of the time as president of that body; also as a director of the First National Bank; vice president of the Wyoming Memorial Association; president of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, of which institution he was one of the founders and its first president; president of the Society of the Army of the Potomac; and president of the Osterhout Free Library.

Although he passed the limit of three score years and ten, his vigorous constitution and apparent sound health gave promise of many more honorable and useful years; but the exposure of camp life, and the stress of many campaigns, together with a serious nervous shock received in a railroad accident a few years prior to his death, were probably the active though remote causes that defeated that promise.

From a consideration of the facts in the life of Gen. Dana, one becomes impressed with the singular range of vicissitude and experience that fell to his lot, as well as with the versatility of his gifts and the mental equipment that enabled him creditably to fulfill the requirements of them all, and attain a high degree of excellence in callings and pursuits so diversified in their nature and character.

Having the tastes and habits of a scholar and bred to a liberal profession, in an atmosphere and surroundings congenial to this manner of life, he experienced the highest gratification in the pursuit of knowledge. The study of the classics of the several languages, of mathematics, music and art, occupied much of his time which was not given to the more practical pursuits of his profession. He was known as a man of letters, of deep and sound learning. Endowed with

these peculiar gifts and tastes, and occupying a position to enjoy their full fruition, he nevertheless voluntarily gave them up on two occasions for terms of years to follow a calling seemingly as foreign to his nature as it was different from his usual avocation, and chose rather a life full of privation and danger, but which presented a new and wider field of activity and usefulness. The phase of his character indicated by such a preference can be understood only in the light of a rare patriotism that found expression in actions which cost him great personal sacrifice.

It is not an easy task to judge of the qualities of a soldier from the quiet manner of the scholar or from the kindly intercourse of a friend, an estimate of the character of the soldier in such a case must be sought for, not from the man himself, but from what he has done. His military record shows that he possessed a high courage, uniting personal bravery with an intelligent appreciation of danger, and that his energy, resolution and cool judgment in the face of the enemy inspired confidence, alike in officers and men, and marked him as an able and accomplished officer. In this relation he exhibited these moral qualities that have served to raise the trade of war from brutal contests to an art that does much to preserve peace among nations, and has made the calling of arms more humane and honorable. During two great wars he served the cause of his country faithfully and well; his name will remain honorably associated with many of the eventful struggles that have shed renown on the American arms and brought honor to the nation.

In the profession of law he stood in the first rank. A close and intelligent student, conscientious and painstaking in all business committed to his care, he made the cause of the client his own. Notwithstanding the several interruptions in his professional calling, arising from the causes before mentioned, he acquired a large and important practice at the bar, and gained a measure of success that attested to his ability as an advocate and counselor.

Able as he was as a lawyer, the judicial qualities of his mind, together with his broad learning and scholarly attainments, made him better fitted for a judge than an advocate. To him the law in its theory was an exact science; from given premises logical conclusions would follow; the justice of a proposition could be ascertained by the abstract rules of law. The law of evidence, perhaps the most logical branch of the science, was a congenial study, and in the ready application of its principles was recognized the justice of his rulings. Judge Rice has summed up his record in this connection in such apt phrase that I take the liberty of quoting his words: "He had real

respect for the law, and faithful to his oath sought to administer it fairly and not to his own personal will. He was just and impartial, and no suitor could ever come before him with the hope of winning his cause through favor, or the fear of losing it through partiality or inattention. He was a sensitive man in the best meaning of that term and I presume did not disdain the approval of his fellow men; but fears of popular clamor, or misconception of his motives, or of the wisdom of his course, did not warp his judgment. With modesty, and yet becoming dignity, with conscientious fidelity, with industry and real learning, with a high sense of his responsibility, he administered the duties of his office wisely, uprightly and justly. He left a record without a stain, a record of distinguished, able, and faithful service that will insure the lasting preservation of his memory in the respect and gratitude of the people whom he served."

As a man, whom we were accustomed to meet in the daily walks of life, he was a genial and agreeable companion and friend; his cultured tastes and great fund of knowledge, his rare conversational gifts and kindly consideration for the opinions of others, were some of the qualities of mind and heart that cemented many lasting friendships.

Among the men in this community who have in the past gained eminence in political life, in the several learned professions, in industrial and business enterprises, few if any can be said to have attained a larger measure of success or rendered more valuable and lasting services to his fellow man.

#### Gen. Doubleday's Tribute.

In a letter to Capt. P. DeLacy, president of the Association of the 143d Pa. Vol., Gen. Doubleday thus expresses his regrets at not being able to attend the dedication of the 143d's monument:

I have always regretted that I was never able to attend any of the reunions of your regiment; for there are few men to whom the country is more indebted for gallant and distinguished service than the 143d Pa.

Had I known at the time the division was formed that Col. Dana had already had some military experience in Mexico, I should have assigned him to the command of a brigade, but I did not learn the fact until after the battle of Gettysburg. What the regiment accomplished that day of July, 1863, has probably never been excelled in the annals of our long and sanguinary struggle for the supremacy of the Union and Constitution.

Holding a central point in my line, assailed by overwhelming forces from north and west, they maintained their positions from 11 a. m. to 4 p. m. against triple their number of the best troops of the Confederates.

The monument to their fallen comrades will be a place of pilgrimage for their sons and their

sons' sons for all time—the Marathon of the Republic,  
ASNER DOUBLEDAY,  
Bvt. Maj. Gen. U. S. Army; 1st. Maj. Gen. U. S. Vols.

#### Death of "Black Ben."

To the older inhabitants of Wilkes-Barre a mention of the death of Ben Tennant, which occurred at Pontiac, Michigan, on Sept. 6th, will bring back memories of the long ago. For thirty years "Black Ben," as he was familiarly called by the boys previous to his going West some forty years ago, was a faithful "hand" employed on the large farm of the elder General Boes. He was a pure blood African, but open-hearted, genial and jovial with the boys and young people of his day. E. S. Loop, Esq., a grandson of General Boes, who as a boy was a favorite of Ben's, a few years ago furnished the readers of the Record an interesting account of his visit to the venerable colored brother at his Western home, and the generous hospitality enjoyed at his pleasant place near Pontiac. Mr. Loop had made Ben a life subscriber to the Record and the paper has for a long time been mailed to him at the former's expense, and now at the age of about 90 years Ben has gone where all good Africans go sooner or later.

At the funeral there were present his wife, 7 children and 21 grand-children.

#### In Wilkes-Barre Fifty Years.

Charles Morgan says that Aug. 3d last marked the fiftieth year since his arrival here in Wilkes-Barre. He left Philadelphia two days before, coming to Harrisburg by way of Columbia by rail, the first day. Next morning he took passage on a canal packet boat commanded by the late Captain Cooke, and the next morning at 5 o'clock he disembarked at the old Hollenback basin, where now stands the Lehigh Valley passenger station. Young Morgan, when he made his advent in sleepy old Wilkes-Barre, was without capital to begin business, and the people here were all entire strangers to him. He is now one of Wilkes-Barre's substantial citizens, who, by honest industry, temperance and strict integrity in all his dealings, has secured the confidence of everybody and succeeded in accumulating a competence of this world's goods, so as to enable him to enjoy the fruits of his labor for the remainder of his days in peace and plenty. More than this, he has reared a large family of sons and daughters, of whom any parent might feel proud, they all being among the most reputable of the many prosperous business men of this city.



## The Monument of the 143d.

In the course of his oration at the dedication of the 143d monument at Gettysburg on last week, Gen. E. S. Osborne, of this city, referred feelingly to Gen. E. L. Dana, who as colonel commanded the regiment July 1, 1863. Gen. Osborne told of the wonderful heroism of the regiment—how they changed front under fire and held their position five hours. Speaking of the brave action of brave Crippen, he said:

"There are many instances of exceeding valor and personal individual heroism—but no better ever occurred anywhere than right here and by this regiment. The order had been given to fall back. One man did not hear it. That man was Ben Crippen, the color sergeant. He faced the enemy. He had not heard the order to fall back. The rebels were coming on, and yet with a defiant air and clenched fist he stood there. It is happened that Major Conyngham saw Ben Crippen defying the whole rebel army. Promptly he cried out, 'Rally, 143d, rally on your colors.' Capt. DeLaoy, the man who never goes to sleep and is always where he should be, also saw Crippen. He caught up the cry and his voice called out, 'Rally, 143d, on your colors.' Then along the whole line went the startling command, 'Rally, 143d, on your colors.' Did the regiment keep falling back? Not a bit of it. With Conyngham, DeLaoy, Crippen and Blair in the line they did rally on the colors, and took them safely from the field. But poor Ben Crippen didn't go with them. He laid his life down on this field and the 143d carried the colors away, and they remained with the regiment to inspire it with courage and glory on other fields."

## Mr. Niven's Memorial Poem.

Gen. E. S. Osborne, of this city, was the orator at the dedication of the 143d Regiment monument at Gettysburg yesterday, and E. A. Niven read the following poem:

Like Christian Knights who towards their Mecca bend,  
The brave survivors of a sorry day  
Their footsteps to these verdant hilltops trend,  
With heavy hearts Love's last respect to pay.  
Oh, mission full of ten'ness and tears!  
What scenes revive with mem'ry's quick'ning breath,  
As stepping o'er the swiftly buried years,  
We greet the dawn of danger and of death.  
Here midst the blossoms of a summer day,  
Where brooding Peace her song serenely sung,  
Crashed the loud thunders of an angry fray,  
On which a Nation's destiny was hung.  
The startled birds bore off in wild affright,  
Their passage wheeling towards the anxious north,  
Where homes and hearts checked every dear de-light  
As the sad echoes from this field went forth.

It was a time of bitterness and fear,  
And millions bent in agony of prayer,  
That God would keep the brave battalions here,  
Who wore the blue, in His paternal care.  
That on their tattered banners at the last  
Victory might perch, though victory should bring  
Sorrow to thousands and rudely overcast  
A million homes with grief's dark shadowing.  
Oh ye who stood amid the shock and heard  
The cry of leaders and the moans of men,  
Saw the red ridges as if by devils stirred  
With flames of hell again, and yet again,  
Can ye forget the cause that nerved the arm  
And steeled the heart to do and gladly dare?  
The patriot fears no danger, hurt nor harm.  
The cause he loves his only thought and care.  
And so ye fought and fighting nobly fell,  
Some to eternal sleep upon their sacred soil,  
But fond affection evermore will tell  
The story of your patriotic toil.  
And *this* command, first in the bloody fray,  
Its early greeting one of awful wrath,  
Baptized in blood and smoke that fearful day,  
A crimson trail along its angry path!  
What claim to courage and to high renown  
Can History's stylus unto you deny?  
The State and Nation hold you as their own,  
Your fame is sure, your valor cannot die.  
'Twas here defiant Crippen dared the foe,  
His hot soul greeting death before diamay,  
The flag he loved he carried high till through  
His patriot heart the bullets found a way.  
The colors caught a fresher glory when  
His life-blood stained them with its crimson well,  
And each brave comrade's heart renewed again  
Its patriot pride when gallant Crippen fell,  
No more the dread alarms of war awake  
The slumb'ring echoes of these quiet hills,  
And sun and star their softening shadows make  
Nor look upon the battles' sorry ills.  
Peace folds her mantle o'er the historic field  
Where once hot spirits in contention wrought;  
For when Affection comes with eyes unsealed  
The tear's mute mandate stills all savage thought.  
The shaft imperishable that stands to-day  
Here on the spot to sacred memory dear,  
Defying still oblivion and decay,  
Will ever tell how heroes battled here.  
Will point a moral to the idle boy  
And teach him that 'tis ever sweet to die  
Defending principles that still employ  
Each patriot mind beneath God's arching sky.  
For well they sleep who for their country fall,  
The praise of unborn generations their's,  
Though alien tongues their names may not re-call  
Embalmed are they in Love's eternal prayers.  
The whitening hairs of comrades gathered here  
Proclaim the end that just before us lies,  
Soon will we list the bugle sounding clear  
That calls us to the bivouac in the skies,  
And let us hope the world will wiser be  
In the new century that is so near,  
That war's dread conflicts they shall never see  
Whose incarnation waits the coming year.  
E'en now the skies with hopeful signs increase  
And white-winged banners flutter in the van,  
Haste! haste! the dawning of eternal peace,  
The universal brotherhood of man.

VETERANS OF THE 52D.

The Delays at the Reunions in Scranton—Comrades Scattered Over Nineteen States.

The reunion of the 52d Regiment, P. V., at Scranton, Sept. 25, was an unqualified success. The Truth says:

At the rooms of the Griffin Post, G. A. R., the survivors of the Fifty-second Regiment, now scattered over nineteen different States and Territories, registered their names and paid their dues for the year. Many of those had not met since the war and joyful were the handshakings in which they engaged. Ballies of wit were exchanged by the comrades, and evidences of good fellowship were seen on every side. Then the veterans moved about, each searching through the crowd for old faces and remarking the force with which time had marked them.

Col. Ripple sat at the desk in the corridor of the hall and courteously received each of the veterans as they gave in their names.

The parade took place at 3 o'clock, Hayes Bros. drum corps leading. Then came Ezra Griffin Post, G. A. R., F. J. Amsden in command. The Sons of Veterans followed. Then came the survivors of the Fifty-second Regiment. At the head of this regiment was carried a battle-worn flag, the property of Ely Post, Wilkes-Barre. This was the first flag raised over Fort Sumter after the rebel guns shot down the national standard, and was placed there by Major Hennessy of the Fifty-second.

The exercises in the evening at the Academy of Music were opened by prayer by Rev. M. D. Fuller. This was followed by singing and by an address of greeting by Capt. E. W. Pearce and a reply by Hon. H. B. Payne, of Kingston. Other addresses were given by Col. C. M. Conyngham, of Wilkes-Barre; Edward Clarkson, of Carbondale; Lieut. Fred Fuller, of Scranton; Dr. J. E. O'Brien, of Scranton; Halsey Lathrop, of Archbald; Rev. Dr. Logan and John T. Howe, of Scranton. There were several songs and recitations, the program closing with the singing of "Marching Through Georgia" by the audience.

Among the veterans present from Wilkes-Barre and vicinity were:

- Musicians—Drum Major G. G. Parker, C. B. Sutton, Anthony Bauer, Edward Meekin.
- Co. A—W. L. Millham, W. E. Mott.
- Co. G—Corp. Henry Rush, Andrew Bum-baugh, Joseph Shiner, John Mentz.
- Co. I—Patrick Harrigan, Jonathan Davis.
- Plymouth—M. F. Mahler, Co. A.
- Luzerne—Thos. Aregood, Co. A; J. L. White, Co. E.
- Wyoming—E. A. DeWolf and Abraham Binker.

- Parsons—Geo. H. Knight, Co. F; Lieut. John D. Colvin, U. S. A., Co. G.
- Plains—Corp. W. S. Stark, Co. G; A. J. Scott, Co. K.
- Edwardsville—Corp. Thos. A. Edwards, Co. I; John J. Morrison.

CURIOUS OLD ACCOUNT BOOK.

One of the Outlying Districts of Old Luzerne, where Quarts of Whisky were Required for Road Building in Mid-summer. [Athens Daily News, July 23, 1899.]

Mrs. Emma Ball, of East Troy, is the possessor of a curious relic of old times—a road book, or pathmaster's duplicate, of Burlington, when Burlington Township embraced what is now Troy and West Burlington, and eight years before this county ceased to be a part of Luzerne County and became Ontario County and ten years before it became Bradford County. The duplicate opens in 1803.

The highest amount assessed in 1803 was \$5 against Moses Calkins, \$4.50 against Wm. McKain, and \$4 against Nath. Allen. The duplicate was written in a cramped hand. In 1803 the pathmasters were Noahdiah Kendall, Moses Calkins and Joseph Ballard. In 1804 Nathaniel Allen was supervisor and the book very neatly kept.

In 1805 Nathaniel Allen was still supervisor, and a memorandum of credit for \$1 was given for going to Towanday. In 1806 \$33 was received and \$34.40 of work done. On Monday, Oct. 21, is the entry "for whiske for hands at E. Godard's, 55 cents." Oct. 2, received by order from Luzerne County, on the road tax, \$100, by county orders from commissioner of Lycoming, \$140.56. The prices paid for work were from 33 to 50 cents for a half day.

In 1806 charges were for "self, team and plow one day, \$2." "One quart of whiakie, 50 cents." "July 6, 1807, two quarts of whiakie," and "July 7, one quart of same," show that the fervid effects of the Fourth were still felt. The charge for warning out the people had increased from 50 cents in 1803 to 75 cents in 1807. "To going to Williamsport after tax on unseated land" is charged at \$3.

A Valuable Autograph of Washington.

In C. E. Butler's store is an autograph of Washington that attracts attention. It is nicely framed and is the outside half of a letter written to Col. Zebulon Butler. Some one has appropriated the letter itself but the outer wrapper reads like this:

In Public Service.  
To  
Col. Zebulon Butler,  
commanding at  
Wyoming.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

## THE CHANGED TIMES.

Paper Read by Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., at the Last Meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, July 3, 1889.

From the records and history of the times and events of a century ago we may form a fairly correct judgment of those men and women who undertook and successfully carried out the settlement of Wyoming and the sacrifices, privations and sufferings they endured in its accomplishment.

They did not come here in the spirit or for the purpose of conquest—to displace others and to reap the fruits of their toil. But they came by the sanction of the law under a claim of right, peaceably, if possible, to take up the waste and unoccupied territory that they had purchased, and to build homes and earn a livelihood for themselves and their families.

They were men chiefly of New England birth, from Connecticut and Rhode Island, together with a small company from Lancaster County, Pa. In their traditions and teachings they represented the best type of the American colonist; they had been bred under the influences of the Christian church; they had imbibed the stern virtues of the Puritan and the Scotch-Irish Presbyterian. They possessed a reverence for religion, a love of learning, and a respect and obedience for the law. In their daily lives they exhibited the qualities of industry, energy of purpose, resolution, courage, and a tenacity for their rights, together with a rare perseverance in the assertion and maintenance of them. They brought with them in their migration their minister of the gospel and the school teacher, and established their places of worship and their schools. In the division of the lands they set apart a certain portion for the support of these institutions, in addition to a general tax levied and applied for the same purpose.

The enterprise they had undertaken was the recovery and settlement of a tract of country 200 miles or more distant from their homes; beyond the furthest outposts, and in an almost unknown wilderness; a region dominated, as they soon learned, by the hostile Indians of the Six Nations and claimed by the Proprietary Government as lying within its charter limits. They appreciated the magnitude of their undertaking and carefully considered the serious results liable to follow the assertion of their rights, but they persevered. Although Wyoming was nominally within the jurisdiction of Connecticut the distance from the seat of government was so great, and communication so difficult as practically to cut off this region from the protection of the laws and operation of the courts. They found a remedy for this defect in the adoption of a code of laws of their

own framing which all the male inhabitants over 21 years of age were required to subscribe to. Under these laws they proceeded to the election of officers for the administration of justice and the government of the community.

They provided also for the defense of the infant colony, exposed as it was on the one hand to the incursion of the savage foe, and on the other to the frequent attacks by the adverse claimants of the land, by the erection of block houses and stockades in the several townships and assigned its garrison to each. The militia organization was perfected by the enrollment of all available men of the settlement.

In a remarkably brief space of time this company of men, overcoming the many and great natural obstacles incident to their undertaking, and triumphing over the forces sent against them and those they met on the way, had established themselves in this territory, had framed and adopted a code of laws, organized a civil government, enrolled a military force, garrisoned the places of defense, established churches and schools, laid out highways, reduced the forest and brought the soil under a state of cultivation and productiveness. Under the genius of this people there arose at once in the wilderness a moral, vigorous and orderly state. It did not grow from smaller beginnings, nor did it attain its maturity and strength by slow and continuous increments, but like Minerva it sprang into being fully armed and equipped. Remarkable as was its rise, no less remarkable was its survival in all its essential elements throughout the whole category of wars, sickness and flood. It was permanent in its character and remained.

The Connecticut settlers, as they were called, had the faculty of impressing upon the creation of their energies their own characteristics, one of which was a certain staying power. Disaster and desolation swept the settlement time and again, and obliterated all else. But the Connecticut settlers were never entirely dislodged. They never relaxed their firm grasp. There was no quality of permanence in their absenteeism, and they never went away of their own volition.

Inured to physical labor and accustomed to the use of arms and the vicissitudes of war by reason of their services to their country at Quebec, the Havanas, and the Indian warfare of the border, they were peculiarly well equipped for maintaining this unequal contest. The persistent energy that marked the progress of their ancestors in the settlement of New England in like manner characterized all their own efforts against the enemies and natural obstacles they encountered here.

The men and women who could accomplish a work of the magnitude that I have here

imperfectly indicated are worthy of the highest commendation. They may have been poor; many of them uneducated; some indeed may fall below the rank of merit seen in their works. But as a community, a body politic, they exhibit in the highest degree the virtues of that standard of excellence that we recognize in the ideal American citizen.

The tide of events has brought many changes since these primitive times. Competence has succeeded want; the cottage has given place to the mansion house; the development of the natural resources of the valley and the march of modern enterprise and improvement have modified many of the features of the landscape.

There are other changes, however, less observable, but more important and significant.

The chief characteristic of this people was their patriotism; the love of country in its more comprehensive sense. They felt themselves to be a part of a complex organization which could perfectly perform its functions only through the proper action of all its members; that the public welfare rested upon the active and willing co-operation of all those whose interests were involved in its support; they recognized in advance the truth of that principle announced by Abraham Lincoln that the government they were helping to establish was to be a government from the people, by the people and for the people. Holding such belief, their patriotism assumed a dual form. One phase of it was shown in the eager enlistment of the number who served in the Revolutionary war, a number out of all proportion to the population. In fact it included nearly all the able-bodied men of the settlement.

Another and a more rare quality of their patriotism is seen in their conscientious discharge of all the duties imposed by their civil organization—responsibilities and burdens self imposed, they fulfilled their requirements soberly, earnestly; in the guard and watch and in the frequent assemblages of the town meeting. They gave their time and energies to the public weal.

It seems to me that the decadence of this principle, the principle that enforces the strict observance of duties public in their nature, the attention on the part of the citizens to the affairs that concern his citizenship is one of the significant changes worthy of remark and which makes pertinent and appropriate in this connection the words "Tempora mutantur." It is easy to see how much of the success of the settlers of Wyoming was owing to the observance of these duties, and it is not difficult by way of contrast to estimate the magnitude of the evils growing up in these

changed times through the disregard of this wholesome principle. We suffer under heavy taxation; we lament the fraud that taints the ballot; we are shocked at the hordes of the ignorant and vicious that seek our shores, and we grieve over a system of laws that accords to them the right of suffrage by which they become doubly dangerous to American institutions. We grieve and regret in respect to these things, and we do little else. We would do well to seek inspiration from the men in whose honor we have met here and consider what they endured in the maintenance of their rights, and what they did to dignify American citizenship. And we might reflect upon the manner of their life and death, and learn in what degree we are guided by the principles that governed their actions. The seal of approbation has been set upon their works. Their influences survive.

It is said that man possesses a certain worldly immortality, consisting in the reverence in which his name is held. The good and great live according to their merits for generations or throughout all time, and their memories are held in respect and honor in the measure in which their deeds have contributed to the sum of human happiness. Applying this thought to these men of Wyoming they should live in the grateful remembrance of future generations, and their patriotism, their resolution, their valor and their endurance gain luster through the lapse of time.

"Time but the impression stronger makes  
"As streams their channels deeper wear."

Bravery, heroism, suffering and death are the incidents of all battles. To these incidents in the battle of Wyoming is added a sentiment of deep and touching pathos arising from the manner and circumstances of the death of most of those who took part in the engagement.

"They were chiefly the undisciplined, the youthful, the aged spared through inefficiency from the distant ranks of the Republic."

They had sheltered their families in a neighboring stockade as a means of slight protection while they went out to meet the enemy. After the battle, when the day was lost and retreat cut off, the thought of their helpless families, the knowledge that their mothers, their wives and children, far removed from human aid, were exposed to the mercy of a merciless and savage foe embittered their last moments and rendered more poignant the prolonged agony of their death.

This monument, under whose shadow we are met, but marks the place of their tragic death and burial. Their true monument, their last memorial, is the many virtues of their heroic lives.

**DEATH OF MRS. COL. BOWMAN.**

**Another Break in a Family Who Have Lived for a Century in Wilkes-Barre and Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Military Life.**

The community will be pained to learn of the death of Mrs. Col. Bowman, which occurred in the early hours of Friday, Oct. 4. Mrs. Bowman was taken ill in February last and her decline has been uninterrupted since that time, except a temporary improvement during the summer at Long Branch. About the first of August a change for the worse ensued and it became evident that the end was not far distant. Coming as far as Glen Summit she stayed a fortnight there but without improvement. The last few months of her life, particularly the last few weeks, were attended with great suffering, and when death came it was as a welcome visitor. Her trouble was enlargement of the liver, the pressure from which upon the lungs made it impossible for her to lie down. Her sufferings were very great and as the end approached she was entirely resigned, and after making known her last wishes, passed peacefully out of life, surrounded by her several daughters and other members of the family.

Mrs. Bowman's maiden name was Marie Louise Colin. Her father, Antonio Colin, was of Huguenot extraction, and lived at Pensacola, Fla., at which place deceased was born, and where she resided until her marriage in 1835 to Col. (then Lieut.) A. H. Bowman, of the U. S. Engineers, then stationed at that point. She subsequently lived at the various stations of her husband—Charleston, Memphis, Washington and West Point, but resided at the homestead in this city since his death, 25 years ago.

Mrs. Bowman was a woman of rare attainments. At the time of her marriage she was one of the noted beauties of the South, and her parents being Spanish she had an entire familiarity with that language. When to her beauty and native grace was added a thorough education, it may well be imagined that she was richly endowed for an entre into the best circles of the brilliant society into which her proud husband introduced her. Mrs. Bowman adorned any assembly to which she lent her presence.

Those sunny days of youth were followed by cloud after cloud of sorrow and bereavement. She followed to the grave her husband, her son Charles, like his father a brilliant engineer in the U. S. Army; her only remaining son, Alexander Hamilton Bowman, known to his friends as Sandy Bowman, and whose handsome face blanched with death before the roses of youth had had time to fade from his cheeks; child after child, nine in all, who were snatched from

her fond grasp, and last of all her grandson, Miles B. McAlester, the pride of her advancing years, who died a year or two ago while a school boy in Wilkes-Barre and making his home with her. Under all these crushing afflictions and others Mrs. Bowman bore bravely up, though each blow left her less strong than before to stand erect under the storms of affliction.

For the last two years she has had a genial companion in her loneliness in the person of a grandniece, Miss Eulalie Norris, a Southern girl attending school in Wilkes-Barre. Though her daughters were widely scattered, Mrs. Bowman either visited them or had visits from them every year.

She was a devoted wife, a loving mother, a kind neighbor. A kind and sympathetic friend, her hand was always ready to respond to the call of humanity. She was a life-long communicant in the Episcopal Church and it was largely through her efforts and those of her daughters that Calvary Sunday School, now a flourishing mission, was established some 18 years ago.

Her surviving children are Eulalie, wife of Capt. J. H. Rollins, U. S. A., Columbia, Mo.; Louise B., wife of Col. E. S. Otis, U. S. A., Fort Assiniboine, Montana; and Lizzie, wife of H. Corbit Ogden, of New York City. All these, as well as Col. Otis, were by her bedside when she passed away.

Mrs. Bowman was 77 years of age.

**THE BOWMAN FAMILY.**

The husband of deceased was Alexander Hamilton Bowman, sixth child of Capt. Samuel Bowman. He was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1803 and died in the same city when 62 years of age. He was by nature and education a military man, graduating from West Point in 1825, third in a class of thirty-seven. He was on coast duty in the South from 1826 to 1851. During this period he superintended the erection of Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor. In May, 1851, he was made instructor of practical military engineering at West Point and from 1861 to his fatal illness in 1864 he served as superintendent of the West Point Academy. At the time of his death he ranked as lieutenant colonel, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. His second son, Charles S. Bowman, graduated from West Point in 1860 and served in the U. S. Cavalry until his death in 1867, in Texas, at which time he ranked as brevet major.

Col. A. H. Bowman was a brother of the Rt. Rev. Samuel Bowman, who became distinguished as a bishop in the Protestant Episcopal Church. Samuel Bowman was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1800, and previous to embracing theology, studied law and was admitted to the Luzerne Bar. At the time of his death in 1861, he was assistant bishop of Pennsylvania, under Bishop Potter. He had previously—in 1847—been elected to the

bishopric of Indiana, but declined the honor. A sister of Col. and Bishop Bowman was Ellen Stuart Bowman, who married Rev. Dr. May, an early rector of St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, (1837-1837) and subsequently professor of church history in the Theological Seminary at Alexandria, his death occurring in 1863.

The Bowmans come of Revolutionary stock. Col. A. H. Bowman's father, Samuel Bowman, was one of seven brothers who served in the Continental Army, one being killed at the battle of Monmouth Junction. Capt. Samuel Bowman was one of the Lexington minute-men and served throughout the war. He was one of the special guards of Major Andre after the latter's capture and supported him to the gallows. After the war Capt. Samuel Bowman came to Wilkes-Barre (1786) and erected a house on what has ever since been called Bowman's hill, and which has been the family estate up to the present time, both Col. A. H. Bowman and his wife having died there. During his subsequent life Samuel was prominent in public affairs until 1800, after which time he lived upon his farm in North Wilkes-Barre. Hemet his death in 1818 by being gored by a bull. His brother, Ebenezer, had followed him to Wilkes-Barre. He too had been a Revolutionary soldier. He became a lawyer and was one of the four first attorneys practicing in Wilkes-Barre, prior to 1787, when the Luzerne courts became organized. Their sister, Mary, who never married, was instrumental in establishing the Home for Friendless Children in Wilkes-Barre and a similar institution in Lancaster, where her brother, Samuel, was preaching. She was one of the organizers of the first Sunday school in Wilkes-Barre, as described by Calvin Parsons in the *Historical Record*, vol. 3, page 66. Another brother was William L. Bowman, a prominent business man in his time.

#### FLOWERS ON THE COFFIN.

**Mrs. Bowman Laid to Rest in Hollenback Cemetery—An Old Family No Longer Represented in Wilkes-Barre.**

The funeral of the late Mrs. M. L. Bowman, widow of Col. A. H. Bowman, took place Monday afternoon from her late residence. Rev. H. E. Hayden officiated and spoke with great feeling. He related that Mrs. Bowman, who had not been apprised of the gravity of her condition, felt the approach of death and called her children around her and bade them a loving farewell. She expressed no regret that death was approaching and no fear. Her intellectual powers were unclouded and her faith

supreme. She asked to hear her favorite hymn,

"Abide with me, fast falls the even tide."

Then remarking, "This is my even tide," she peacefully folded her hands over her breast, the minister said, and fell asleep in Jesus.

The singing was by a quartet from St. Stephen's and included "Asleep in Jesus," "Abide with me," and "I heard a voice." The house was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants and vines and the casket was hidden beneath a profusion of floral tributes.

The coffin was carried by W. L. Conyngnam, Hon. C. A. Miner, Charles Parrish, C. P. Hunt, R. O. Shoemaker and A. H. McClintock. The honorary pall bearers were Col. Charles Dorrance, N. Rutter, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Richard Sharpe, Josiah Lewis and A. T. McClintock. The attendance was large and included representatives from the many families who had known and loved deceased in her life time. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Dead After Three Years' Illness.

Mrs. Peter Ashelman died at her home in Plainsville Oct. 8th, aged 57 years, after a lingering illness of consumption. Mrs. Ashelman was born in Exeter Township, and was the daughter of William Lewis. Her mother is still living at the age of 80 years. She was a member of the Plainsville M. E. Church. Besides her husband she is survived by five daughters and a son, all living at Plainsville—Margaret, wife of W. C. Creasy; Adelia, wife of John Flaherty; and their daughters at home, Ida, Eva and Susie; and a son, Harlow D. Deceased has a brother living at Plainsville, a sister living in Kansas, Mrs. Ruhama Williams, and another sister, Mrs. Sarah Hopkins, living in Milford Center, Ohio.

#### A Ripe Old Age.

Tuesday, Oct. 1, P. S. Croop, of Factoryville, Wyoming Co., died of old age. He was born in Hanover Township, Luzerne Co., in 1801, and was consequently 88 years of age. He married and left there for his present home 50 years ago. His wife was also a native of Newport Township, and died a little over a year ago. They have a family of five children, Mrs. Frank Long, of Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre; Cyrus W. Croop, formerly clerk of the Luzerne House, Wilkes-Barre; three of the sons in Mershead City, Southern California—Stephen, Zachariah and William Croop. The funeral took place on Thursday at 2 o'clock, from the home near Factoryville.

## IN MEMORY OF THE DEAD.

**A Beautiful Union Service in Memory of the Late Dr. Olin, at the First M. E. Church.**

Soft and low the strains of hymn No. 901 fell from the lips of the audience in the First M. E. Church Sunday afternoon, Sept. 29:

"Servant of God, well done,  
The glorious warfare's past;  
The battle's fought, the race is won,  
And thou art crowned at last."

It was a representative audience, composed of members of all denominations who had gathered to listen to the tributes from friend, companion and co-worker with the late Dr. W. H. Olin. The exercises were impressive and as each speaker mentioned additional traits of character in the life of the dead preacher, gathered from personal association, he was pictured as a truly great man.

After the singing of the hymn the audience bowed and Rev. J. E. Bone led in prayer, in the course of which he said "We know, O Lord, that thou canst carry on the work though the workmen fail. Thou hast taken from us a Moses, O give us a Joshua; thou hast called away an Elijah, let his mantle fall upon Elisha."

Dr. Phillips made but a few remarks in speaking of Dr. Olin's devout Christian character. "We loved him as a man, we trusted him as a Christian, we honored him as a minister of the word, and now for a moment we pause to think of him."

Dr. Van Schoick spoke of Dr. Olin as a presiding elder. For seventeen and a half years, he said, he held that office, a term exceeded in length by only two others, Zachariah Parker and William Bixby. This office is one of the most laborious in the church, and Dr. Olin in it did tremendous work. He devoted himself especially to work in the interest of superannuated preachers and mission work. The speaker then read a pen picture of Dr. Olin which he had written and published in a Methodist journal many years ago. As a preacher, said he, his sermons were addressed more to the head than to the heart. They were of the argumentative kind. The best memorial we can give will be to carry forward the work for which he manifested such great concern—making comfortable the worn out preachers and sending the gospel of salvation to every foreign land.

W. W. Loomis spoke of him as a preacher. His remarks were eloquent and he paid many a glowing tribute to his ministerial work. He came here as a preacher in 1874, said Mr. Loomis. He came as a stranger, but his fame preceded him. As a pastor he was reliable. He may not have possessed that versatility of genius, that adaptability to reach the feelings that pre-eminently charac-

terize some men, but he sought the heart and endeavored to explain and strike home the great truths. To the sick he was a kind minister, for the poor he always had great consideration, and he will by them be held in loving remembrance. There is a dignity in the ministration of a man of God. Not only do the words spoken from the desk touch those tender chords that vibrate from God to man, but it is also the intense and sympathetic feeling that reaches into men's souls. Dr. Olin ministered to us for three years and then became a presiding elder. In all his work it was evident that he was a man of God.

Dr. Hodge spoke of Dr. Olin as a citizen. It was my privilege, he said, for seven years to know him as a man, as a worker in the vineyard of the Father. Dr. Hodge was impressed with his vigor, his lofty purpose, his courage, and Christian zeal. No person could listen to or associate with him without being impressed with the fact that he was a man of uncommon mental endowment. I learned to respect Dr. Olin and I mean to pay a high tribute to him when I say that with our seven years' acquaintance I observed that he stood out among men. He was more than a preacher. He felt his ability to go forth as a leader among men in great moral questions. It was this nobleness of purpose that led him to accept political office, not for praise but for his desire to serve men. He carried into his political life his Christian character and retired from it with the respect of his fellow men. He lacked not the courage to do a thing when he thought he was in the right. Above all he was a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was a positive man. I differed from him in some things, but from the bottom of my heart I respected him for his earnestness of conviction, his honesty, his courage. He was a blessing in every community in which he lived and now has been called to wear a crown which fades not away.

Rev. Mr. Griffin spoke of the closing scenes of his life. He said it will be thirty years next April when he first met Dr. Olin at Oneida Conference. He now would look at him as standing out among the stalwart men of God. I respected him for his firm adherence to what I believed to be his honest conviction. Mr. Griffin spoke of his conversion forty years ago and then of the last days of his life. He read this short dispatch to Mrs. Olin from Michigan, "William is dead." It was by mistake addressed to "Mrs. Owen," and the person for whom it was intended could not imagine that it was her husband whom it mentioned. Not until the casket was carried into the house at Binghamton did she realize that her husband was dead. Mr. Griffin then read a letter describing his

sudden illness and death. He preached his last sermon where he preached the first, and has ceased his fruitful work among men. Mr. Griffin offered prayer and the audience was dismissed after singing the hymn beginning, "How blest the righteous when he dies."

**Death of a Brilliant Engineer.**

The whole country is sincerely sorry to hear of the death of Capt. W. R. Jones, the able and brave manager of the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, which occurred on Sept. 28, as a result of burns received in the recent accident at Braddock.

Capt. William Richard Jones was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Feb. 23, 1839. He was the elder child of Rev. John G. Jones, who emigrated to this country from Wales in 1832. His father's poor health compelled him to begin work at the age of 10, when he was apprenticed to the Crane Iron Co., of Catasauqua.

In July, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Co. A, 133d Pennsylvania Volunteers, and was promoted to corporal. He was badly hurt at the crossing of the Rapidan before the battle, but refused to leave the ranks, although suffering greatly. At the expiration of his term he re-entered the service of the Cambria Iron Co.

In the capacity of commander of the Baltimore Provost Guard Captain Jones behaved with his usual tact and courage, and was publicly complimented by General Lew Wallace.

Honorably mustered out June 17, 1865, he again entered the Cambria Iron Company as assistant to the chief engineer, and as such assisted in the construction of the Cambria Company's Bessemer steel-converting and blooming-mill plants. He subsequently became master mechanic, and finally general superintendent of the Edgar Thomson Steel Company and directed the building of furnaces A, B, C, D, E, F and G, the third of which was destined to become the cause of his untimely end.

His improvements and inventions have made these furnaces the finest in the world. Captain Jones' inventions are as numerous as they are useful. The first were "A Device for operating Ladles in Bessemer Process," and "Improvements in Hose Couplings," patented Dec. 12, 1876. In the same month he also patented fastenings for Bessemer converters. His other more important patents were washers for ingot moulds, 1876; hot beds for bending rails, 1877; apparatus for compressing ingots while casting ingot moulds, 1878; cooling roll journals and shafts, 1881; feeding appliance for rolling mills and art of making railroad bars, 1886; appliance for rolls, apparatus for removing and setting rolls, housing caps for rolls, roll housings,

1888; and apparatus for removing ingots from moulds, 1889.

His latest and greatest invention is a method for mixing metal taken from blast furnaces and charged into two receiving tanks. Letters patent on this invention have been allowed, but are not yet issued.

In 1888 Captain Jones was appointed consulting engineer to Carnegie, Phipps & Co. He was a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, and the Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain. He is a prominent G. A. R. member and was, in 1888, chosen Senior Vice Commander of Pennsylvania. He was a Freemason and a staunch Republican.

Captain Jones had four children, only two of whom now survive, namely, a son, W. M. C. Jones, now engaged as engineer in the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, and a daughter, Cora. Both children have attained their majority.

**Capt. Jones, of Braddock.**

The death of Capt. Jones, the distinguished manager of the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, has plunged the city of Pittsburg and vicinity in deep mourning. The deceased was a man of high attainments and many charities and his active life and stirring deeds will be remembered for years. He was born in this county and it is a pleasure for his old friends and associates to know that he acquitted himself with such honor and ability in all the walks of life. The Welsh people of Allegheny County found in him a great friend, for he took great interest in their choral societies. While not a millionaire, he was very rich, the income from his patents alone netting him from \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year. His salary as a manager of the steel works was \$50,000 a year.

In speaking of his life the Pittsburg Dispatch says:

"It goes without saying that Capt. Jones was the most popular man in Braddock, and anyone having a doubt in the matter would be quickly relieved on visiting that borough built of iron. Everywhere kindly expressions of pity and sympathy were heard for the gallant soldier on his deathbed, and everywhere were allusions made to his goodheartedness, his kindness to his men, and his care for the suffering and the poor. Many were the tales told of the widows and orphans whom he had succored, and whom he made happy in permanent houses of their own, in every case drawing on his private resources to aid in these charitable works, and doing it all in the quiet, business-like way so characteristic of the man. As he himself was generous and just, he desired that those under his control should be likewise."



"One instance was related, dealing with an episode that occurred during the strike of some six years back. At that time the men who were out were at the end of their resources and often wanted food. They were obliged to run long bills on credit with provision dealers for the necessaries of life. Among others who assisted the strikers in this way was an old and disabled former employe who, alone in the world, eked out an existence by running a small grocery store.

"Many of the men, when work was finally resumed, owed him sums of from \$20 to \$70, but declined to make any arrangements for paying him, who had stood by them in their need. After bearing with them for three or four years, the old grocer concluded he would state his case to the captain. He did so, and each of the delinquents was called up before the gallant soldier, who read them a severe lecture on their want of manliness and common honesty, and concluded by informing them that unless they made arrangements to pay off their indebtedness in monthly installments they should have to find work elsewhere. The lesson was salutary, and the men paid up. This was but one of a number of similar incidents in which Captain Jones exercised his power for the protection of the injured.

"In another case he called down one of the bosses, who held a very responsible position, for putting in relatives and friends in positions regardless of their fitness and over the heads of more deserving men."

All of the Pittsburg papers print columns of facts concerning the wonderful success Mr. Jones achieved as an engineer, the patriotism he showed during the Rebellion and the charity he practiced in private life. The *Times* prints the following on its editorial page:

"The life of Wm. R. Jones, one of the victims of the awful calamity at the Braddock mills, who has since died, was an example that others in whatever employment may profitably study, and his fate was a warning that should be held in remembrance. What he achieved and by it became the most important man connected with one of the greatest iron works on the globe, others may at least attempt. Falling short would be no discredit, for in the busy world of great actualities there are recorded few successes greater than was his. Captain Jones was a great man in his vocation, which was great, constantly doing great things. He was an actor in connection with great processes that produced vast results. In the wheel of progress he was an important spoke, and his employers found it to their interest to make his income as large as that of the President of the United States, and he was not high priced at that. He was earning his salary when he was overwhelmed. His fate is a warning, because lives like his are

too valuable for the present means of safety. The warning speaks loudly for better means of security. In one sense the lives of all men are equally valuable. Not so, however, in the light in which we are considering Captain Jones. In that light he was one among tens of thousands. He died an active worker amid the stupendous actualities in which he lived. These had their perils, none of which did he shun. As one who goes to battle and falls may be said to die as might be expected that he would, so Captain Jones' death was in a manner not unlike what might have been logically expected. He fell on the field where he wrought."

#### A SUDDEN DEATH.

The Wife of Principal E. L. Scott Dies from Heart Trouble.

The many friends of Mrs. Edwin L. Scott were much grieved to hear of her sudden death Wednesday, Oct. 3. She had given birth to a babe about a week ago, but was very bright and well. Wednesday, however, the nurse heard her say, "I feel so strange here," placing her hand over her heart. The nurse noted her ashy pallor, and at once started for assistance, but Mrs. Scott was dead before the nurse could get out of the room. The cause of death is supposed to have been a bloodclot on the heart. Deceased was about 28 years old, her maiden name being Miss Daisy McCarragher. She is survived by her husband and two children—Elizabeth, aged 3 years, and the baby. Another child died several months ago. The father of the deceased, Samuel McCarragher, is still living. Mrs. Scott is said to have had a strong premonition of death several days ago, though having no apparent cause. She expressed the opinion to the nurse.

#### Grape on Two Store Deers.

J. W. Frantz, of Carverton, died about 3 o'clock Tuesday Oct. 1, after over two months of intense suffering. About ten weeks ago he was kicked by a horse in the abdomen and from that time he has been confined to his room. Abscesses formed in the abdomen, finally resulting in perforation of the intestine. The young man was of most estimable character and was a thorough Christian. Some days ago he was informed by his physician that he could not recover. This, instead of depressing him, had the contrary effect. He was entirely resigned, and his death was a complete triumph of Christian faith, so much so that the effect upon those who attended his last hours was noticeable. Deceased was 26 years old and is survived by his mother, who is now 68 years old. Two sisters, Mrs. C. F. Sutherland and Mrs. A. E. Merrel, as also two brothers, M. H. Frantz and G. L. C. Frantz, of Smith & Frantz, live in Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. W. H. Jackson, an-

other sister, lived in Pittston, and another brother, Frank Frantz, lives in Ashley.

George T. Bell was in Lewistown Tuesday attending the funeral of his father, also named George T. Bell. Deceased was 73 years old and leaves a large family.

**A SAD VISITATION.**

**Death Claims Mrs. Abram Marks, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Long.**

A sad and heavy blow to her relatives and many friends in this city is the death of Mrs. Abram Marks, *nee* Miss Gertrude, or among her friends, Miss Getta Long, daughter of Isaac Long. All of last week she had been at the store of her father, Isaac Long, attending to her usual duties. She was ill and looked deathly white, still she refused to give up until Friday night, when she made the remark, "I will go home now and rest, and not get up until Monday." She did as she had said, but her condition seemed more serious than was expected. Physicians were called at once; and on Sunday her father was summoned from the synagogue on Washington Street, where he was at worship. Inflammation of the bowels set in, the patient endured terrible suffering, and the watchers did not leave her bedside. Her relatives were much encouraged on Tuesday when the fever abated and the outlook seemed bright. But the rally was only temporary, for at evening she grew worse and the end seemed near. She lingered until about 2 o'clock Wednesday morning, Oct 9, when she sunk into her last sleep.

She would have been married five years next February, but since her marriage she has been the same gentle and affectionate daughter, and to her parents the loss is terrible. They wanted her promise to always remain with them, even after they should enter their handsome new residence on South Franklin Street.

Whatever those characteristics are that win friends, Mrs. Marks had them, and her social and domestic relations were always happy and agreeable. She would have been 26 years of age Oct. 30. The immediate cause of death was peritonitis. All her immediate relations were with her at the end, excepting her sister, Mrs. Charles Gimble, of Milwaukee.

**TWO CARRIAGE LOADS OF FLOWERS.**

**A Large Concurrence of Sorrowing Friends Pay the Last Tribute of Respect to the Late Mrs. Marks.**

One of the largest funerals seen in Wilkes-Barre was that of Isaac Long's daughter, Getta, Mrs. Abram Marks, on Friday, Oct. 11. The throng of sympathizing friends was far too large for Mr. Long's residence, capacious as it is, and two or three hundred people

occupied the yard and the pavements. The display of floral emblems was profusion itself. All who passed through the darkened parlor where the dead lay agreed that its like had never before been seen in Wilkes-Barre. Every conceivable emblem in flowers had been prepared by loving hands and the very walls and curtains of the parlor were hung with them.

The attendance showed in what esteem the deceased and her family were held. Nearly every business place in town was represented by one or more persons. Christian ministers—Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. H. E. Hayden—were there and listened to the thrilling words of Rev. Dr. Rundbaken, as he drew lessons from the sad event and told of the noble life now ended all too soon. There were few persons who were not moved to tears under the tenderness of his words and the pathos of the circumstances. The services were entirely in English.

After the services were concluded an opportunity was given the friends to take a farewell look at the dead wife. It was a beautiful idea that had obtained in preparing her for burial. She was not attired in the customary shroud, but was dressed for life—not for death. She wore a robe of India silk and silk mulle—an Empire gown, such as would be worn at a reception. It had a surplice waist and the dainty light material lay in rich folds down the front. A sash of ribbon encircled her waist and reached to the foot. In her hand was a bunch of carnations and a spray of maidenhair fern. At her neck was a bunch of flowers and another at her feet. Except that the features bore traces of the suffering that had been crowded into a few days, the appearance was of sweet repose, rather than of death.

The coffin was carried out by S. Klopfer, A. B. Constine, Herman Burgunder, Leo. W. Long, Simon Shloes and Louis Boyer. After it was placed in the hearse they filled two carriages with the floral emblems. Interment was in the Jewish Cemetery, below town, and was followed by a large concourse of carriages.

**The Late Isaac Wood.**

The *Trenton True American* of Sept. 28 has the following concerning the late Isaac Wood, whose death occurred on the 27th:

Isaac Wood, a resident of Trenton since 1868 and well known in business circles because of his strong financial standing, died at his summer residence at Ocean Grove at half-past one o'clock yesterday afternoon, in his 75th year. Mr. Wood had been in poor health for nearly three years, but since last Sunday he had been very ill, caused by a severe cold contracted.

Mr. Wood was born in England, April 15, 1815. He came early to this country with his

father and resided at Wilkes-Barre. His father was largely engaged in the mining interests, and the deceased went into the iron business at an early age. He was connected with the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and from 1856 to 1860 he was president of the Dundee Coal Co., which sunk the deepest shaft in the United States up to that time. He was treasurer and director of the Nanticoke R. E. Co. for a long time and was a director of the Wyoming National Bank.

Since his residence in Trenton Mr. Wood has led a retired life. He owns real estate to the value of over \$100,000 in Wilkes-Barre and also a large amount here.

Mr. Wood married Emily H., daughter of Deacon Ira Welles, of East Windsor, Connecticut, and the grand daughter of an officer in the Colonial armies, whose wife Sarah Trumbul was a cousin of the famous Jonathan Trumbul, a friend of Washington.

Mr. Wood was a member of State Street M. E. Church and has been a trustee for many years. He leaves four sons, Ira W., Isaac T., Edward S. and William P., and two daughters, one of whom is the wife of General James F. Rusling.

#### A VIRGINIA SEMINARY.

**Rev. Dr. Nelson Describes an Institution from Which Two Rectors of St. Stephen's Have Graduated.**

At St. Stephen's, on Oct. 6, Rev. Kinloch Nelson, D. D., assisted Rev. Henry L. Jones in the morning communion service and preached in the evening. Dr. Nelson is Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Pastoral Theology and Canon Law in the Theological Seminary of Virginia. Rev. Mr. Jones is an alumnus of this institution, as were two former rectors of St. Stephen's—Rev. Dr. James May and Rev. George D. Miles. Rev. H. E. Hayden also graduated from the same seminary.

Dr. Nelson spoke informally at the morning service of the history and work of the seminary. It was founded in 1815, he said, and was intended to educate such young men as felt called of God to the gospel ministry. It did not restrict itself to Virginia, but accepted men from any diocese. It has educated nearly one thousand young men for the ministry, of whom fully one half are from dioceses outside of Virginia. It was founded to prepare men for the Protestant Episcopal Church and has no sympathy with a modern tendency to depart from the ancient faith or to change the name to Catholic or American Church. In addition to its Protestant teachings the seminary has been a strong missionary institution. Fifty of its alumni have gone to Africa, China, Japan and Greece. Eight hundred men have graduated and become ministers, 19 of whom have become bishops of the church.

#### AN HEIR OF WILLIAM PENN

**Sues the City of Easton and County of Northampton to Regain Possession of a Plot of Ground in the Heart of the Town.**

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 7.—One of the most interesting lawsuits that has been before the United States Court for a long time will be tried during the October term, which was opened this morning by Judge Butler in the Postoffice Building. The proceeding is in the form of an ejectment suit instituted by William Stuart, a native and resident of Great Britain, and one of the heirs of William Penn, against the city of Easton and county of Northampton to regain possession of a plot of ground in the centre of the city of Easton.

The plaintiff in the case is William Stuart a descendant of William Penn, who lives in elegant leisure on the Penn estates on the Isle of Wight. Mr. Stuart is represented in the litigation by C. B. Taylor, the well-known Philadelphia lawyer, while the counsel on the other side are H. J. Steel, for the city of Easton, and H. S. Cavanaugh, for the county of Northampton.

In the language of the summons served upon the defendants, the property in question consists of a "lot of ground situate in the city of Easton, in the centre of the great square of said town, containing eighty feet in length, north and south, and eight feet in breadth, east and west, together with all ways, water courses, liberties, easements, privileges, profits, advantages, and appurtenances thereto belonging (being at the intersection of Third and Northampton Avenue in said city)."

The land which is the object of the present litigation lies in the very heart of the thriving city of Easton, and is valued at sums ranging from \$80,000 to \$100,000.

LATER.—The jury found in favor of the defendant.

#### More than 103 Years Old.

A former Wilkes-Barre man recently paid a visit to an aged man in Norwalk, O., and they are thus mentioned by the *Reflector*: "Mr. C. J. Baldwin and party took a herdic, Saturday, and paid their respects to the venerable Martin Kellogg, the occasion being his 103d birthday. They found the old gentleman in comparatively good health and glad to see them. He told the party that he didn't recollect of seeing any herdics a hundred years ago. Mr. Baldwin brought back home with him, as a souvenir, Mr. Kellogg's autograph, which was written in a plain legible hand."

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

**A Wisconsin Valley Which Was Traveled by the Whites Nearly Two Centuries and a half Age—A County in Which La-cerne County People Figured.**

MARQUETTE, Wis., Sept. 7, 1889.—[EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE].—It is a frequent mistake to consider the Western States as new, compared with their more Eastern neighbors, but the fact is, some of them have a history dating back more than 200 years, and have been included in the dominion of three great powers—France, England and the United States. There are few traces of the early occupation, save in the names of towns commemorating the intrepid explorers and missionaries of the French Jesuits.

Among these are Butte des Morts, De Pere, De Soto, Eau Claire, Fond Du Lac, La Crosse, Prairie du Chien, Prairie du Sac, besides no less than 15 postoffices commemorating saints. Save in the impress upon the native tribes nothing else remains.

The little village from which this letter is dated bears the name of one of the most intrepid missionaries ever sent out by the Jesuits of France. No greater loss was ever sustained by the early Roman Catholic Church than when the devoted missionary lay down to die beside the blue waters of Lake Michigan, almost unattended, and hundreds of miles away from the nearest missionary station. The

STORY OF HIS LIFE

would be as thrilling as that of Stanley in Central Africa—yes, more thrilling, for he traveled without a retinue and made his way through savage tribes unarmed and unharmed.

The adventures of Father Marquette are little short of marvelous. He came from France to Canada at the age of 29 and in the nine years which elapsed before his death he penetrated thousands of miles into an absolutely unknown wilderness. After mastering several Indian languages and founding mission stations at Saulte Ste. Marie and Mackinaw, he determined to explore the Mississippi, known only as vaguely described by the Indians. Accompanied by Father Joliet, he started from Mackinaw in 1673, with two canoes and five French attendants, and proceeded to Green Bay where a mission had been established four years before. Ascending the Fox and descending the Wisconsin, they discovered the upper Mississippi. That the country was thinly settled by aborigines is shown by the fact that they floated 300 miles before they saw a human being. They passed the mouth of the Missouri, the Ohio and the Arkansas, but then retraced their steps for fear of falling into the hands of the Spaniards, on whose domain they were now tres-

passing. They met Indians who had guns, clothing and other supplies obtained from white traders to the southward and were informed that the sea was only ten days distant. They seem to have gone as far as the northern boundary of Louisiana.

The toilsome journey up the river was undertaken and after passing what is now St. Louis, the voyagers left the Mississippi and paddled up the Illinois River, making the portage to Lake Michigan at what is now Chicago. Thence they made their way along the shore of Lake Michigan, to the mission at Green Bay, after an absence of only four months, during which time they had covered the astonishing distance of 2,550 miles. The next year Marquette died while on a missionary journey and his two companions buried him in a lonely Michigan forest. He was at this time only 38 years of age.

But the lower Fox had been explored forty years prior to this. The first to ascend its waters was Jean Nicollet, in 1684. In 1670 a French missionary, Father Allouez, made a voyage up the Fox as far as where Berlin, Green Lake County, now stands. So it appears that the valley of the Fox River in Wisconsin figures in history earlier than does the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania.

What is now Wisconsin remained

UNDER FRENCH RULE

for a century, or until its surrender to Great Britain in 1763. The British maintained possession with a military force at Green Bay until the close of the Revolution when the territory was ceded to the United States, and it became part of the Northwest Territory. The United States did not take formal possession, however, until 1816. In the meantime Virginia and other States ceded to the United States all their claims to the region northwest of the Ohio River and Congress provided for its government as the Northwest Territory. Out of it were afterwards erected the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. To provide for its government in its ante-Statehood days Wisconsin (spelled Onisconsin on the early French maps) was hitched on to the Territory of Illinois in 1809, a few years later to Michigan, and in 1836 it became a Territory, having come into prominence by reason of the discovery of lead and copper and in 1832 by the Indian troubles known as the Black Hawk War. It was admitted to the Union in 1848.

In its palmy days Marquette was the county seat of Marquette County (organized in 1848) and later of Green Lake County, which was set off from Marquette County in 1858. At one time the village of Marquette seemed destined to become one of the leading inland towns of Wisconsin, so great were its natural advantages. Enterprising men located here and spent thousands

of dollars in paving the way for the future greatness of the town, but the fates were against it and the village ceased to wax and began to wane more than a score of years ago. It is surrounded by a fine farming country, and what was considered of importance in the early days, it occupied a commanding position on the Fox River. The advantage of this location lay in the fact that the Fox was part of a natural highway between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River. The idea of early settlers was that the Fox would ultimately become

## A SHIP CANAL

for the nation, and that the largest vessels could pass from the Lakes to the Mississippi, and thence to the Gulf of Mexico. This was deemed important, not only from a commercial standpoint, but in furnishing an inland water route for naval vessels, should future troubles with Canada make their presence necessary along the lake frontier.

The communication between the lakes and the sea was to be by means of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers—the route opened by Father Marquette 200 years ago. The Fox runs north and empties into Lake Michigan at Green Bay. The Wisconsin runs southward through the centre and almost the entire length of the State, emptying into the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien. The Fox and Wisconsin are not more than a mile apart at Portage City. The name of the latter place perpetuates the fact that the early explorers and the Indians carried their canoes across from one river to the other. The building of a short piece of canal thus makes it possible for a revenue cutter which has gone by sea from New York to New Orleans, and then up the Mississippi, to pass through the Wisconsin and the Fox to Lake Michigan, then down the St. Lawrence and around by sea to New York again.

In order to carry out the idea of the ship canal it became necessary for the government to

## EXPEND LARGE SUMS

of money in making the two rivers navigable for vessels of heavy draught. The work has been going on for many years and at almost every session of Congress an appropriation is made, but without any real advance toward the ship canal idea. The improvement dragged itself along so slowly that river towns whose future depended on the ship canal scheme fell into decay years and years ago. Some of the river towns had other things to build on and accordingly became flourishing cities, such as Oshkosh and Fond du Lac, whose nearness to the pineries made them important points for the manufacture of lumber and its allied products. Appleton had a magnificent water power and has become famous for the manufacture of paper,

and other towns not blessed with any special advantages of location have been kept alive by the advent of railroads. It is probable that the railroads killed the ship canal. A few of the towns have disappeared entirely. Such an one is St. Marie, a point so named by Father Marquette.

Though the ship canal project has up to the present time proved a failure, so far as its national character is concerned, its agitation has proved a great importance locally. The public money expended has all been necessary to keep the two rivers navigable for local traffic. The Wisconsin River has such a shifting bed that constant dredging is necessary to keep it navigable. The Fox also requires dredging and the construction of locks and wing dams, all of which eat up the government appropriations as fast as they can be obtained. With all these disadvantages the Fox and Wisconsin are better adapted for a highway to the sea than is the Illinois River. It is not impossible that the future may witness the construction of the ship canal.

The village of Marquette ceased to grow 20 years ago. The census of 1890 will show about 350 souls—just about what it was in 1870. Forty years ago it was the county seat. Judge D. J. Loop,

## NOW OF THE LUZERNE BAR,

then a lawyer at Portage, came here at times to practice. Wesley Johnson, of Wilkes-Barre, then recently admitted to the Philadelphia bar, practiced two or three years here and was elected clerk of the Circuit Court, besides finding a wife at Marquette. The little village is as beautiful for location as ever, but saw its best days 30 or 40 years ago. The court house is now a church, where Episcopal service is read once a month by a missionary who rides a circuit. The county offices have disappeared and their place is occupied by a thrifty corn field. The stone jail is a farm house.

In the year 1853 a vote was had on the question of removing the county seat to Dartford. Dartford at this time was a thriving village at the outlet of Big Green Lake, where Anson Dart, its founder, had built a large flouring and grist mill. Mr. Dart's wife was a Miss Catlin, daughter of Putnam Catlin, an old time Wilkes-Barre lawyer. A canvass of the vote on the county seat question appeared to show a majority in favor of removal, but the correctness of the canvass was seriously questioned. At any rate, Clerk of the Courts Johnson, who was in favor of the removal, when the result was announced, in the night time packed up the records and carried them to Dartford, where the courts were held in a church during the balance of his term of office. At the succeeding election for county officers Domi-

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nick Davanny (who, by the way, was another Luzerne Countian and a soldier of the Mexican War under Captain Dana,) was elected to succeed Mr. Johnson, and he being from Montello, near Marquette, as soon as he got possession of the office carried the county seat back to Marquette in obedience to the wishes of the people of that part of the county, where it remained undisturbed for the next five years.

In 1858 Marquette County was divided and Berlin became the county seat of the new Green Lake County. Afterwards the people voted to remove it to Dartford and subsequently the Princeton people sought to obtain it. Though defeated at the polls, the minority, supported by the opinion of the attorney general, of Wisconsin, made a night raid upon the records and carried them to Princeton. The matter was promptly taken to the Supreme Court, and the decision was against Princeton. So the county archives were started again on their migratory career and for 20 years no attempt has been made to get them away from Dartford.

Marquette is a famous point for duck hunting, some mention of which is reserved for another letter.

F. C. J

**PLEASANT VALLEY'S MEMORIAL.**

**The Ceremonies of Respect Over the Graves of the Mud Run Victims—Sorrowful Scenes.**

It was the anniversary of Father Mathew's birth Oct. 10th, and the Catholic Temperance Societies of the land met to do honor to the memory of the great Apostle of Temperance. But to the people of Pleasant Valley the day had deeper significance. It was just one year ago yesterday that the Catholic Temperance societies of this pretty little borough left to celebrate the day at Hazleton, and on the homeward journey 34 of them met an untimely death, and a number of others, up to 65, were injured by the horrible accident at Mud Run. The borough wore an aspect of a memorial day in reality. Business places were partially closed, the mines gave up work for the day, and displays of hunting were interlocked with crape, with flags at half mast. These were general the whole length of the borough. Among the most notable was the flag hung across the roadway opposite undertaker T. J. O'Malley's, which on one side had the words:

"We Mourn Our Dead."

And on the other

"In Memory of Our Dead."

The office of the Avoca Times was tastefully draped in bunting interlaced in mourning. At the residence of Mr. Doran, who was the color bearer of one of the Avoca societies a year ago, and who lost two sons in the accident, he only escaping with his

life, the flag which was torn in the wreck and saturated with blood, hung out. The blood stains were plainly visible. As the passers by reviewed it Thursday it caused many a tear and shudder.

At 9 o'clock in the morning Rev. Father Crane celebrated high mass in St. Mary's Church for the repose of the souls of the dead victims. The handsome church was filled with a sorrowing congregation.

At 2 o'clock the memorial parade started, under command of M. H. McAndrew as chief marshal. The following was the order of the parade:

- Carriages containing clergy.
- St. Mary's Cadets.
- Young Men's Silver Cornet Band of Avoca.
- St. Paul's Pioneer Corps.
- St. Mary's T. A. B. Society.
- Albian Band, of Avoca.
- St. Aloysius Society.
- Sarsfield Literary Club.
- Div. No. 9, A. O. H., Board of America.
- Duryea Fife and Drum Corps.
- St. Mary's Literary Society.
- Div. No. 9, A. O. H., Board of Erin.

The following was the line of march: Starting from corner of Main and Hawthorne Streets, to Moosic, Main to Lackawanna Street, Minooka Street to River, Main Street to Avoca, Main to McAlpine Street, Smith Avenue to Cemetery. Counter march from Cemetery to South Avenue, McAlpine to Main Street, Hawthorne Street to Church, to pastoral residence and dismissal.

At the cemetery a platform was built on an elevated spot near the graves of the victims. Rev. Father Crane, assisted by Fathers Phillips, Curran and Green, offered prayers for the dead, after which the societies went round and strew bouquets of flowers on the graves. The Y. M. C. B. entered the plot where were buried the bandmen that were killed, and played the Dead March in Saul over the graves. The scenes at the cemetery were sorrowful in the extreme. Fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers knelt inside the grave enclosures and bedewed the fresh strewn flowers over their loved ones with tears. During the ceremony all stood with uncovered heads. The day was exceptionally fine, and the solemn services were observed by between 2,000 and 3,000 people.

**The New City Directory.**

The number of names is 16,699, against 15,824 in 1886 and 12,749 in 1887. The multiple which Mr. Williams finds the proper for estimating population from his directories is 2 3/4, which would give Wilkes-Barre a population of 45,758, a growth of 2,942 over last year.

**DEATH OF E. P. DARLING.**

**He Passes Away from an Affection of the Heart — A Sudden and Heavy Blow to His Family and to the Community.**

The death of E. P. Darling, which occurred at his residence on Oct. 19th, was startling in its suddenness and leaves a wide gap in the ranks of law practitioners in Luzerne County. Mr. Darling had been ill, ill enough to require the services of a skilled nurse, but his condition was not such as to excite alarm, and when death came it was almost as sudden as the lightning's flash. Mr. Darling's health had been impaired for some years, and he had sought to regain it by travel and by summer recreation. He was fond of hunting, and had a cabin at North Mountain, where he was wont to pass much of his time during the deer season. He had a lovely summer house at Bear Lake, and many months were spent there. It is not more than two weeks since he was able to be at his office. During that time he has been a sufferer from what appears to have been neuralgia of the heart and it is believed by the attending physician that death was due to heart clot. The fatal seizure was attended with no premonitory symptoms—on the contrary, he had passed a comfortable night and partaken of breakfast. About 10 o'clock he said to his nurse, "William, I am very ill." He then lay down and speedily became unconscious. Physicians were summoned, but neither powerful heart stimulants nor applications of the electric battery could rouse the vital forces.

When Mr. Darling was joined by his brother, J. Vaughan Darling, in 1874, a partnership was formed, the senior partner assuming the consulting portion of the firm's practice as his share, the junior member giving his attention to the portion of the practice necessitating attendance upon the courts. While this partition of affairs was entirely to the liking of the senior member, it entailed upon him a vast amount of detail work that was extremely wearing and during the last ten years he has had two slight paralytic attacks and at times he has been quite incapacitated from duty.

Mr. Darling was devoted to his profession and its duties were always a delight, never a burden, even when overtaxed with them. He was greatly sought after as an administrator of estates and at the time of his death he was managing nearly forty estates, some of them of large extent, as the Hollenbeck and Loring estates. There are many widows in town who have depended entirely upon Mr. Darling to manage their business and in his death they lose an invaluable friend. Mr. Darling's talents were in demand, not only for individuals but for corporations, and his firm have for years been entrusted with the

business of the Lehigh Valley R. R. Co., the Pennsylvania and New York C. & E. R. Co., the coal interests of the Pennsylvania and numerous other corporations. But for every corporation he represented he watched the interests of fifty individuals, many of them widows and orphans.

His life was simple and unaffected. He had a happy home which he ever adorned. He always avoided the turmoil of political life and when he had deposited his ballot he considered his duty to the body politic discharged. He was a patron of the fine arts and was not only an admirer of beautiful paintings and statuary but was a critic as well, and selections made by him were models of good taste. His charities were wider than the world knew. His heart was touched by every tale of woe and there was never a worthy applicant for aid who was turned away empty handed. He was one of nature's noblemen and a gentleman in every sense of the word.

It is said of him that he never sent his clients any bills for professional services. He maintained that a lawyer was a public servant and he preferred to leave to his clients the entire matter of remuneration, rather than place a price upon the service rendered them. While this would hardly be a safe rule for the average practitioner to follow, it does not seem to have worked mischief to Mr. Darling by clients taking advantage of such leniency, for he was able to amass a sufficient competency to leave his children handsomely provided for.

He has for many years occupied a leading position at the Luzerne Bar and on all phases of the law of estates, of the status of corporations, of the validity of titles and of civil law generally, he was an authority. He had no fondness for pleading—his preference was to consume the midnight oil, digging deep for what the average lawyer would seek near the surface. It was always a matter of principle to keep his clients out of litigation if he could possibly do so. If they came to him in trouble he lent his best efforts to extricate them but he never sought to fill h's purse by encouraging them in litigation that ought to be avoided. In short, it may be said of Mr. Darling that he was all that a lawyer should be.

Edward Payson Darling would have been 58 years old on the tenth of November next. He was a native of Berks County. He graduated honorably from Amherst College at the age of 20 and two years later was admitted to the bar of Berks County. He practiced his profession two years at Reading and in 1855 came to Wilkes-Barre, where he has since lived and where he has occupied a very foremost position at the Luzerne Bar. Mr. Darling was not only a prominent lawyer but his ability as an adviser in matters of

finance is shown by the fact that he was identified with no less than three local banking institutions,—a partner in F. V. Rockafellow & Co., and a vice-president of both the Wyoming National and the Miners Savings Bank. He has also been in the directory of the Wilkes-Barre Gas Co., and the Female Institute. By the will of the late Isaac S. Osterhout Mr. Darling was selected as one of the trustees of the Osterhout Free Library. He was at the time of his death one of the trustees of the Y. M. C. A. building fund, out of which is projected the early erection of a handsome building on Main street. Mr. Darling was an attendant at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and in his younger days was a valued member of the church choir.

Mr. Darling is survived by three children—Mary Rutter Darling, Emily Cist Darling and Thomas Darling, all living at home. The son is a lawyer. Their mother was Emily, daughter of Nathaniel Rutter, to whom Mr. Darling was married in 1859. She died five years ago. He is also survived by his brother, J. Vaughan Darling. Another brother, Rev. Dr. Henry Darling, is president of Hamilton College. There are three surviving sisters—Mrs. Mary Vaughan Wilson, West Philadelphia; Mrs. William A. Drown, Fern Hill, Montgomery County, Pa.; and Miss Maggie S. Darling, of the same place. A nephew, William Darling, whom he adopted on the death of the latter's father, is now residing at Powder River, Wyoming Territory.

Mr. Darling's father was William Darling, a prominent practitioner of law in Reading, Pa., and for some years a judge, a native of Maine. His father was a law partner of Judge Strong, of the Supreme Court. His mother was Margaret Vaughan Smith, daughter of an early iron master in Berks County, and descendant of a well known family in the north of Ireland. F. C. J.

#### IN MEMORY OF THE DEAD.

##### Resolutions of Respect Apropos of the Decease of Mr. Darling.

###### ACTION OF THE BAR.

Some 60 members of the Luzerne Bar met in the main court room Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, pursuant to call to act on the death of Edward P. Darling. On motion of Judge Harding, A. T. McClintock was made chairman. Allan H. Dickson was made secretary.

Mr. McClintock was deeply moved. He stated that while standing at an open grave in Hollenback Cemetery on Saturday the news had been whispered to him that Mr. Darling was dead. He had known Mr. Darling 30 years and respected him for his high moral worth, his great integrity and profound acquirements. He had been largely interested in the interests of this whole

county and he was known widely throughout the State. His loss cannot be repaired. Mr. McClintock had difficulty in giving utterance to his feeling of sorrow and said that he felt that something had gone out of his own life in the death of Mr. Darling. When as a youth young Darling made known to his father, Judge Darling, his purpose to study law, his father asked him, "Edward, do you think you are honest enough to be a lawyer?" Mr. McClintock said this question of father to son had been affirmatively answered in his life.

Mr. Farnham moved that a committee of seven be named to draft resolutions, the chair appointing Mr. Farnham, Judge Rice, Judge Rhone, George B. Kulp, G. R. Bedford, Judge Harding and Hon. L. D. Shoemaker. The committee retired and soon after returned with the following resolutions, which had been drafted by Mr. Farnham:

The members of the bar of Luzerne County are assembled to give expression to their deep sense of bereavement, occasioned by the death of their honored and beloved associate, Edward Payson Darling.

Death is at all times a startling visitor, even when expected, but when he suddenly appears and strikes down from a community one of its foremost citizens, a shock to society is felt, to its inmost fibre. That sense of loss, which otherwise would be limited, takes on a public character and becomes universal. We are conscious of a great void where, just before, there had been an inspiring presence, and we feel that the light of a splendid example has gone out from us forever. There comes to the thought, the recollection of those qualities of mind and soul which marked him and which went to make up the excellence of his character as it stood revealed before his fellow men. We are possessed of a deep and earnest conviction that an irreparable loss has fallen to the community, and that the vacant place he left cannot well be filled during his generation.

With what greater force do these suggestions affect us here assembled, when it occurs that a citizen, who has died thus honored and lamented, is one of our professional circle—a member of our own bar. Who, outside of the relationship of kindred and family, can so well testify concerning him, as those, of similar vocation, who have had professional intercourse with him day by day, as the years have rolled by?

Mr. Darling was born in Robeson Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, on Nov. 10, 1831. He was educated at New London Cross Roads Academy and at Amherst College, graduating at the latter in 1851. He studied law in the city of Reading under the instruction of Hon. William Strong and John S.



Richards, Esq., and was admitted to the bar of Berks County on Nov. 10, 1853. In 1855, he removed to Wilkes-Barre and became a member of the Luzerne County Bar, on Aug. 13 of that year.

From the very first, he ranked as one of the ablest of the younger members of the bar, and gave early promise of his subsequent brilliant professional career. His legal apprehensions were instinctive, and he was possessed of a quick, intuitive perception that enabled him to single out at once the essential point of a case and apply the principle of law which controlled it. He was, moreover, imbued with the learning of the law. He kept well abreast with the current of judicial decision. To a keen intelligence, he united a broad and generous culture. His diction was of the purest and was conciseness itself. None could excel and but few equaled him in courtesy of demeanor. His whole bearing, and all that he said and did, indicated refinement of thought and action. Modest, gentle and unobtrusive, as he was, the superior qualities of his mind and nature were at once revealed and profoundly impressed those with whom he was brought into contact. At no time did he lose that sense of personal dignity which always commanded involuntary respect. With these qualifications, no one stood better equipped for the duties of his profession. He gave, in addition, unremitting service to his patrons. But one result could ensue. He speedily rose to the highest rank, becoming one of the acknowledged leaders of our bar. His usefulness took even a wider range. He possessed the full confidence of the community, and his name was associated with most of its public enterprises. He was prominent in many of its financial institutions and in its organized charities and trusts.

Not only do we mourn him as a leader fallen from among us, but also as a brother around whom our affections centred. The grace of his personal character—the charm of his personal qualities—his unflinching courtesy—the refined spirit which marked his demeanor—his generous nature and quick sympathies—all these made up a personality which was endearing—a personality whose example will abide with us, and whose memory will be green and unfading while we live.

It is with these reflections that we have come to lay our tribute upon his bier; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the members of the bar of Luzerne County have learned with profound sorrow of the death of their fellow member, Edward P. Darling, Esquire.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Darling, not only has the community lost a foremost citizen, our profession a distinguished ornament, but each member of the bar feels a

deep and abiding sense of personal bereavement.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of the deceased our heartfelt sympathies in the great sorrow which has fallen upon them.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be presented the court at its next session and, with its permission, be placed upon the minutes thereof.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, and that they be printed in the newspapers of the county.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, on motion of Mr. Brundage.

Mr. Farnham recalled the year of his own admission to the bar and his first acquaintance with Mr. Darling, when the latter came in 1855, his elegance of manner, his grace of carriage, his air of distinction, a reserve and unaffected modesty in his demeanor. The friendship formed has remained unbroken until now. He was steadfast in his friendship, and amid all the cares of a great clientele he remained faithful to the associations of our young lives. True he mingled little in society, and disease rendered his late years a burden, but I always felt my life freshened by that early friendship. His smoothness of diction, his refined and cultivated tastes, attracted attention, and attention necessarily awakened friendship. Though he had esthetic tastes he was eminently fitted for practical business. His chief quality was his sense of fidelity—to clients, friends and all the relations of life, though this fidelity never assumed exaggerated proportions. He was generous to those to whom he was opposed. Mr. Farnham considered him a martyr to his sense of duty.

Judge Rice read a letter from Judge Woodward, in Philadelphia, in the course of which the latter said:

Mr. Darling came to the Luzerne bar at a time when its more prominent members were particularly conspicuous for their learning, eloquence and ability. He came as a stranger from another county, without any of those advantageous advantages which grow out of long residence, and a wide acquaintance. But he very soon commended himself to the favorable attention of his seniors, and won his way by his faithful devotion to such business as came to him. He at once began to grow, and his whole career has served to illustrate what has become almost a maxim, that the lawyer who stands well with his professional brethren will stand well with the community also. Mr. Darling was a thorough lawyer. He was learned without pedantry, and accomplished without obtrusion. His professional standard was a high one, and he lived up to it. No breath of suspicion ever stained for a moment, the clear record of his life at

the bar. But he was more than a lawyer. He was a cultivated and Christian gentleman. He loved art. He was fond of music. In all the departments of liberal culture he had formed and developed a sincere love for the true, the beautiful, and the good. In these respects, I feel sure that, upon reflection, we shall all agree, our deceased friend was a marked man. My personal relations with Mr. Darling were intimate. We were roommates for more than a year, when he was a young practitioner, and I a student. We have been neighbors and warm friends since. In this experience I can say most truly that I have always found him a pure, noble, and generous man. His death leaves a vacant place at the bar and in the community that will not be easily filled.

Having read the letter, Judge Rice spoke as follows: Death has often been called the King of Terrors. But to a man of the nature of E. P. Darling it was not so at the end, nor was it ever so. To such a man there are things much more to be dreaded than death, and from these he had happily escaped. He had lived to achieve the highest honors of his profession. He had reached the summit of his ambition. He had been to the highest degree helpful to his fellow men. And owing to disease, which I verily believe was brought on by the most untiring and unselfish labors for others, life had become little more than a wearisome struggle. Although a comparatively young man he had done the work of a life time of the full measure. To his family, this bar and community his death is a great loss, but to him, I imagine, death was a welcome messenger.

If it could ever be truthfully said of a man that he had no enemy, it could be said of Mr. Darling. This may or may not be a recommendation, but in his case it is a high tribute. Never shunning responsibility, always dealing with conflicting and contending interests, always faithful to duty, guarding his clients' interests with a jealous care, yet the graces so developed and mingled in him that even his adversaries were his friends. He was a scholar of rare attainments; he was a critical and intelligent student of art; he was a literary man in the best sense of that term; he was a student of those greatest problems that can engage the human intellect. Neglecting nothing that goes to make up a cultured scholar and gentleman, he was pre-eminent as a lawyer. He had qualities which would have made him a prominent and brilliant figure at the bar without great effort. But he had no ambition for that distinction. With all his great talents he was the most industrious and painstaking of men. No detail was too trivial for his attention. But, above all, he was a man of integrity. By that I do not mean that he merely observed those common rules of fine dealing that keep a man

from positive dishonor, but that he was sincere, pure, true and faithful in every relation, in every motive, in every impulse and every purpose. With all his rare qualities and attainments which raised him far above the average of men, I believe that if he were to choose the tribute that should be paid to his memory on this sad occasion, it would be that he was in the best and highest sense of that term a honest man.

Mr. Bedford said: In all the years that this county has had an existence its bar has never, in my judgment, met with a greater loss than that which has befallen it in the death of Edward Payson Darling. The most that we can say, indeed all that we can say, will fall far short of doing justice to his memory or of expressing the high estimate in which he has so long been held by his brethren of the bar and by the whole community in which he lived. He elevated the profession of law and illustrated in the highest degree its amenities and proprieties. He extended to the youngest lawyer at the bar the same considerate, courteous and cordial treatment that he accorded to his cotemporaries in the profession, and to all men young and old he was uniformly respectful and urbane. With all his legal learning he was free from pride of opinion and was always ready to reconsider and discuss with even the youngest member of the bar any question notwithstanding he had already reached a conclusion. In all his business relations, whether with his fellow members of the bar or with those outside of it he was eminently fair, frank and just. He gave character to the practice of the law and reputation to our bar throughout the State. Open and high minded as he was, he deprecated and deplored any resort to unworthy methods. His word once given was never broken. He was the lawyer *par excellence* and was verily the Chevalier Bayard of our profession. May we imitate his virtues and profit by his high example.

T. B. Martin made some highly eulogistic remarks, expressive of the sense of loss felt by the younger members of the bar. In the course of his remarks he said: His life and his acts are his honors and his laurels. His profession as a lawyer was by no means a necessary adjunct to give him name and place. He adorned, elevated and dignified his profession. He was a jewel in the social life of our fair city. He was alone his own peer. His manners, his gentleness, his culture, his intellect, his friendship, were a thing of beauty. They warmed, inspired, delighted and made him who was fortunate enough to come within their touch the better and nobler for the contact.

Judge Harding spoke of Mr. Darling's coming to Wilkes-Barre, and of their being young men together. Mr. Darling, he said, attracted acquaintances, and the bands then

formed became bands of steel. As I knew him then, so I knew him always—the polished gentleman, the accomplished scholar, the estimable man. What he was in his youth, he was when death knocked at his door. Our early days were many of them spent in field sports, and we fished and hunted the mountain by day and night for years. His hand was always ready in those times to do its share. Of all the men I ever knew, I do not remember one who exceeded him in those qualities which go to make up an accomplished manhood. In professional ethics he had few equals and no superiors. Judge Harding recalled a hunting trip where there were four—Laning, Sterling, Darling, Harding—all of whose names ended in -n-g, and he alone was left. Judge Harding then emphasized the lesson that Mr. Darling's life was well worthy of imitation in everything except his neglect of himself. Professional duty ought never to be permitted to be so exacting that a lawyer forgets his duty to himself. Emulate his professional career, young men, said Judge Harding, but be careful to avoid his example in the matter of neglecting the physical side of life.

Judge Rhone stated that his relations with Mr. Darling were intimate by reason of the former's connection with the Orphan's Court, as deceased had been trustee, supervisor, counselor, as no other member of the bar has been, for large and complicated estates. Judge Rhone's duty, he said, had been simply to approve. Mr. Darling never boasted, the speaker said, of having won a victory. These meetings are not necessary as eulogies for the dead. Rather are they to benefit ourselves. They teach us not only how to win in the profession, but they teach us that the end of all things is near at hand, and that wealth and fame are nothing if we have not left the record of an honest and a square life. These sad occasions soften the rigidities of professional life and teach us to treat each other as brethren. We are all ministers of justice—not to make our professional life a game, to win what somebody else must lose.

Allan H. Dickson's remarks: The maxim, *De mortuis nil nisi bonum*, represents the limit of the obligation which the living owe to the dead. Silence is always permissible. But if we speak we are under an obligation to speak the truth, whether concerning the living or the dead. This obligation presents no difficulty whatever in talking about E. P. Darling. In the 15 years that I have known him the only criticism of his personal conduct I ever heard was that he did not give us as much of his society as we desired. We love to recall the times we have spent in his company. He reminded us of the traditions of such men as Horace Binney and John Saragant. There are two kinds of high ability displayed by lawyers. One adroitness and subtlety—the power to make the worse ap-

pear the better cause. It was illustrated in such eminent men as Lord Broughan and Caleb Cushing. Of this sort Mr. Darling possessed little, or made no use of what he possessed. The other is philosophical judgment, derived from learning, patient investigation into all the facts and decided cases and accurate logic from all these facts and decisions. In this respect Mr. Darling was the brilliant and shining ornament of our bar. For the past twenty years at least there was no man in Pennsylvania whose advice was more valuable than his. A visit to his office by the young men of the bar has been to us an object lesson both in deportment and legal insight. He combined the manners of a Chesterfield with the learning of a Coke. Superadded to this was his perfect integrity. No man at the bar ever hesitated an instant to rely absolutely on his word. They knew he both had the ability to know whereof he spoke and the steadfastness to adhere to his word, once given, under all circumstances. It was his conscientiousness in the discharge of his duty that made it impossible for him to take proper care of his health. During the hard times between 1876 and 1880 he was borne down by the troubles of his clients. Their cares became his cares. This community has lost a guide, philosopher and friend. This bar has lost its noblest example and its most brilliant member.

#### THE OSTERHOUT TRUSTEES.

The following minute was adopted Monday at a meeting of the Osterhout Free Library trustees:

For a second time in a brief half year death has made a vacancy in this board and again brought to each of us a sense of personal bereavement and sorrow.

Of the original trustees who but seven years ago were selected by the founder of this library to carry out his beneficent purposes three—lacking but one of a majority—have fallen by the way. From the recording of the recent loss of the first president of the library, Hon. E. L. Dana, we are called to mourn the untimely decease of his successor in that office, Edward P. Darling, who died after a brief illness at his residence in this city, Saturday, Oct. 19, 1899, in the 59th year of his age.

We were bound to him by more than ordinary ties of friendship. Our business and social relations with him enabled us to apprehend with a clear vision and grateful appreciation his many and varied accomplishments and the generous friendship that sprang from the best of human sympathies. The qualities of his mind and habits of life that enabled him to attain a foremost rank in the profession of law rendered his counsel invaluable in the many perplexing questions arising in the management and development of the estate committed to our care; and in the establishment of the library, its plan of administration and the scope of its purposes his experience, his knowledge of books and scholarly taste were constant aids in the work. His high character and known conservatism helped in a large measure to hold the

confidence of the public in the actions of the board at a time when it was most valuable to the interests of the trust and the beneficiaries thereof. He was a man strong of himself and moreover a source of strength to his co-workers, and we recognize that to him is due a large share of the success that the library has met with. In testimony of our respect for the character of our late associate it is resolved: That in the death of Edward P. Darling, late the president of the Osterhout Free Library, we recognize the loss of a cherished friend, a wise counsellor and co-worker in the duties committed to us, that we will attend the funeral in a body, and that the library be closed during the hours of the funeral.

#### MINERS' SAVINGS BANK.

At a special meeting of the directors of the Miners' Savings Bank, to take action on the death of their vice president, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That by the death of Edward P. Darling the Miners' Savings Bank has been deprived of a faithful, conscientious and capable officer, and the community of a citizen of marked ability and usefulness.

The prominent traits of his character were fidelity to duty under all circumstances, remarkable industry in business, unquestioned integrity, and a sense of manliness and honor rarely equalled and never excelled. To great learning in his profession he added the grace of general culture, and to both the instincts, habits and unfailing deportment of a gentleman. He was a conservative and safe counsellor, a generous and public spirited citizen, and a fast friend. Without ostentation he pursued his way in the successful management of great and varied interests, seeking only the reward due to a conscientious performance of duty. He was in every relation of life a true man. We mourn his loss and revere his memory.

Resolved, That an engrossed copy of these resolutions be presented to his family with the sincere condolence of the directors of this bank, and that they will attend his funeral in a body.

#### WYOMING BANK RESOLUTIONS.

The following drawn up by Messrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Geo. S. Bennett and Hon. C. D. Foster was adopted by the Wyoming Bank directors Tuesday:

Edward P. Darling, late the vice president of this bank, died at his home in this city, Saturday, Oct. 19, 1889, at the age of 58 years.

During nearly nine years he had been a director and for the same length of time vice president of this bank. The duties of the position, often onerous, always of a responsible character, he discharged with uniform fidelity and ability.

His sterling integrity, sound judgment, wise forecast of events, conservatism, promptness and correct business methods, united with a rare talent in matters of finance, marked him as an invaluable counsellor and a wise and judicious administrator.

The many and varied interests that had been committed to his care identified him in an exceptional degree with the business and industrial life of this community, and under his counsel, both as a man of affairs and in his professional capacity much of its activity was guided.

Bred to the law, he long since attained distinction in his profession, and same qualities of mind and habits of industry and energy that won him success and substantial reward in the practice of the law brought about a like result in his extended business relations.

A scholarly man of exalted character, refined tastes and of genial friendships he had won the confidence and esteem of all who knew him, and his untimely death is sincerely mourned by the community of which he was a useful and an honored member.

As a mark of respect for the character of our late associate, it is

Resolved, That in the death of Edward P. Darling this bank has been deprived of an efficient officer and a judicious counsellor, whose long and able service in its management was alike beneficial to the institution and creditable to himself; that a sense of personal bereavement is brought home to each member of this board, and while mourning our loss we tender our condolence to the family of our late associate, and further that we will attend the funeral in a body.

#### Mr. Darling's Funeral.

The spacious residence of the late E. P. Darling was not large enough to admit the throng of friends who attended the funeral services Tuesday, and two or three hundred persons stood on the porches and pavement. The service was conducted by Rev. Henry L. Jones, assisted by Rev. H. E. Hayden and Rev. Dr. Hodge. The only musical portion was the hymn "Abide With Me," by a quartet from St. Stephen's—Mrs. Brundage, Miss Brundage, W. L. Raeder and J. B. Woodward. Mr. Darling lay in the darkened parlor and his features were as natural as life. The pall bearers were W. L. Conyngham, F. V. Rockafellow, Edward Welles, Joseph Stickney, T. S. Hillard, Col. R. B. Bicketta. Behind them, carrying the floral emblems to the hearse, came Col. Dorrance, A. T. McClintock, R. H. Sayre, Charles Parrish, A. Mitchell, ex-Gov. H. M. Hoyt, Judge Bice, A. Farnham, J. W. Hollenback, Dr. Mayer, W. W. Ambry and Albert Lewis. The ladies did not go to the cemetery. Among the gentlemen from out of town were Henry Belin, Paul R. Weitzel, Scranton; Israel W. Morris, Philadelphia; W. E. Little Tunkhannock; Scott Stark, Pittston; Daniel Edwards, Kingston; Hon. Joseph Powell, Lieut.-Gov. Davis, Harry Streeter, Towanda; Mr. Hines, Scranton; Sylvanus Ayres, Lambertville, N. J.; Col. E. B. Beaumont, U. S. A.; W. G. Payne, New York.

#### E. P. DARLING'S WILL.

He Disposes of His Estate in a Few Words.

The following is a copy of the last will and testament of E. P. Darling:

I, E. P. Darling, do make and publish this my last will and testament: I give and bequeath the premises in Philadelphia, No. 149 North 35th Street, to my sister Mary dur-

ing her natural life, and after her death to revert to Margaret Wilcox during her natural life, if she shall remain so long unmarried. And I direct that the water rent, taxes and necessary repairs shall be paid by my estate.

I give to Winifred Riley, in recognition of her faithful service, the sum of \$500, and to the other servants in my employ at the time of my death \$50 each.

I give my law library to my son Thomas, requesting him to permit my brother Vaughan to use it so long as he may desire it.

All the rest and residue of my estate, real, personal and mixed, I give and devise to my three children, Mary R., Thomas and Emily C., and their heirs in equal parts.

I appoint my son, Thomas Darling, the executor of this will. Signed Sept. 14 1889. Witnessed by F. W. Wheaton and G. W. Woodruff.

The estate of Mr. Darling is valued at \$400,000.

#### STRICKEN DOWN AT SEVENTY-THREE.

**A Former Wilkes-Barre Man Dies in California—He Crossed the Continent in a Wagon Before Railroads Were Built.**

News has been received of the death from apoplexy of Miles Johnson, at Lathrop, Cal., on Sunday morning, Oct. 6, 1889. The deceased was a brother of Alderman Wesley Johnson, of this city, and was born in old Wilkes-Barre Township 73 years ago. He learned the trade of a cabinet maker with Ansel Thomas, who during his apprenticeship, in about 1834, removed to New York. After serving out his time in that city, and not finding the business to his liking, Mr. Johnson shipped as carpenter on a Nantucket whaler, and made a three years' cruise round the world in pursuit of sperm whales of the Pacific, which at that time were more numerous than at present.

After the cruise he returned to Wilkes-Barre and was engaged in business for a time in mining and shipping coal from the Wilcox bed, now Mill Creek slope. After disposing of real estate at Laurel Run, which would now afford a handsome fortune, he, in 1847, emigrated to Wisconsin, purchasing a fine farm on the beautiful Green Lake prairie. Soon after he was united in marriage to Philomela, a daughter of Spencer Burlingame. In 1853 he returned to his native town and engaged successfully in the manufacture and sale of furniture. Not contented with the dull business of the then sleepy town, again he determined to move westward. In the spring of 1858 he took his family, consisting of his wife and four children, and in a canvas topped wagon started on the long journey across the Alleghenies. At Pittsburg steamer travel was taken advantage of, and by descending the Ohio and sailing up the Missis-

sippi, he reached Missouri, where he located near the town of Mexico, in Audrain County. In three years' time he had a fine farm well under cultivation, and a comfortable home. Then came the troublous times incident to breaking out of the Civil War. Surrounded on every side by Southern sympathizers he soon found himself a marked man, his life and property unsafe. The institution of slavery then flourished on every side, and this he had found distasteful. Refusing to employ slaves, he was known as an abolitionist, and his presence was no longer permissible. Seeing that a peaceful residence in his new home was impossible, in the spring of 1861 he sacrificed everything, and again putting his family into a "prairie-schooner," he joined a party of emigrants and started towards the setting sun. Six months of daily travel, amid dangers from storm and flood, hostile Indians and reckless men, at last brought the party to the land of gold just as the great mining excitement was dying out and before the agricultural era began. He first located in Northern California, in Shasta County, but the region proved unhealthy and in 1864 he removed to San Francisco, where he again took up his trade of cabinet maker. His love for the life of a farmer again induced him, in 1869, to remove to the interior of the State, where he followed agricultural pursuits for sixteen years with varying success. At the end of that time age, sickness and hardship had incapacitated him for active life, and he had not for several years previous to his death been engaged in active pursuits.

Several severe attacks of sickness gradually reduced him to a state of extreme feebleness, and his fatal attack of apoplexy had been apprehended for many months. He leaves a wife, two sons and six daughters and fifteen grandchildren to mourn the sudden death of a kind and indulgent parent, a wise counsellor and friend.

The deceased was the sixth of ten children of Jehoiada Pitt Johnson, and a grandson of Rev. Jacob Johnson, a pioneer preacher of Wyoming. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, March 16, 1816. Wells B. Johnson, of the Record staff, is a son.

#### Brought from Europe for Burial.

Not many months ago Charles Edmund Dana was summoned from the sick bed of his father, the late Judge Edmund L. Dana, to Europe, where his 7-year-old son, Ralph McClintock Dana, was ill. The little fellow died of meningitis in September, on the Isle of Wight, and the body was brought to Wilkes-Barre, reaching here Friday Oct. 18. The funeral was held Saturday from St. Stephen's, Rev. H. E. Hayden officiating. The pallbearers were C. P. Hunt, Sheldon Reynolds, I. A. Stearns and G. B. Bedford. Interment

was in Hollenback Cemetery. Though no public announcement had been made of the funeral, there was a large attendance of sympathizing friends and relatives. The deceased was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Dana. A little daughter is spared to them. Mr. Dana is the principal heir to his father's estate, and it is said he will abandon his home in Paris and make his residence in this country, probably in Philadelphia. Mrs. Dana will be remembered as Miss Trott Woodbury. Mr. Dana's mother accompanies him and is the guest of Mrs. Charles Parish.

**LAST OF FOUR BROTHERS.**

**A Former Wilkes-Barre Man Dies in the West at an Advanced Age, Apparently of Apoplexy.**

News has been received of the death of Horatio B. Bowman, which occurred at his home in Alton, Ill., Sept. 20. Mr. Bowman was the last of the male line of his family and was nearly 80 years old. The only survivor of the family is Miss Mary L. Bowman, resident in Wilkes-Barre. The late Col. Samuel Bowman, whose death occurred in April last, was a brother. Other brothers are James Munroe Bowman, U. S. A., died 1833; Francis L. Bowman, U. S. A., died 1856.

His father was Gen. Isaac Bowman (for a sketch of whom, see *Historical Record* volume 4, page 63.)

The *Telegraph* of Alton, prints the following:

Horatio B. Bowman, one of our oldest and most prominent citizens, died yesterday. His death was so sudden as to be a shock to the whole community. He had been ailing for some weeks, with a disarrangement of the stomach, but his troubles were not thought to be serious by his family. He passed away without a struggle, calmly, peacefully, as a child going to sleep, at the age of almost 80 years.

H. B. Bowman came to this city in 1836, and had been engaged in mercantile pursuits from that time until a few years ago, when he entrusted the management of his business to his son, H. J. Bowman. Deceased had acquired an enviable character for honesty, probity and fair dealing. He was a good citizen, an obliging neighbor, a steadfast friend. Loyal to his convictions of right and wrong he was intolerant of anything that had the appearance of injustice, oppression or tyranny. Quiet and unassuming he was charitable and benevolent to an extent known to none but his most intimate friends. Deceased held a pew in the Episcopal Church. He left a wife and two sons, H. J. Bowman and Hon E. M. Bowman.

**A BIT OF HISTORY**

**Called Out by the Recent Death of Mrs. Julia Jones—Her Ancestry.**

(Daily Record, Oct. 24.)

The brief notice of the death of Mrs. Julia Jones, which appeared in the Record of yesterday would seem to be hardly a fitting tribute to the memory of a descendant of one of the most prominent families of the early settlers of this valley. Mrs. Jones was the fifth child born to Eleazer Blackman, her mother before marriage having been a Miss Clorinda Hyde. Her father, Eleazer Blackman, was born in Connecticut in 1765 and came to this valley with his parents in 1772. Though but a small boy at the time, he drove a team of oxen and assisted in hauling logs to build the Wilkes-Barre fort, erected on what is now the public common, and standing near South Street. The next day after the disastrous battle in front of Wintermute's Fort, known to history as the battle and massacre of Wyoming, he, with his mother and other children of the family older than himself, started on the perilous journey through the "shades of death" where so many of the fugitives perished, arriving at Fort Stroud, and thence on to Connecticut. He returned to the valley in about 1784, where he met and married Miss Hyde, also of a prominent family in the valley. This marriage was solemnized by the Rev. Jacob Johnson and took place about one hundred years ago in old Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Blackman lived on his farm up to the time of his death, at what has since been known as the "Blackman mines," but now the Franklin mines of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., in the South District of Wilkes-Barre Township; he died in 1844.

Mrs. Jones' husband, Edward Jones, was a brother of Richard Jones, formerly of South Wilkes-Barre, who was the successful founder of the extensive Vulcan foundry and machine shops of the South Wilkes-Barre portion of the city. The two Jones brothers married sisters, daughters of Eleazer Blackman. Mrs. Richard Jones (Lovina) is still living at the fine family homestead on South Main Street. Edward Jones, husband of Julia, died about forty years ago, leaving two daughters and one son, Albert, who was killed in the battle of Antietam, in September, 1862. The daughters never married, and they with their mother have continued to reside near the old home, until now death has divided a happy and loving household by the removal of an honored parent at the ripe age of over 80 years. Melinda Blackman, an older daughter of Eleazer Blackman, married Daniel Collings and was the mother of Samuel P. Collings, the able Democratic editor of the old *Republican Farmer*, who died at his post of duty as U. S. consul at Tangier, Morocco, whither he was

sent by President Pierce. Eleazer Blackman Collings, a distinguished Democratic politician of his day, was another son. Mrs. Julia Dougherty, Mrs. Hattie Davidson, and Miss Eliza Collings, of this city, are also daughters of the same, and consequently nieces of Mrs. Jones. w. j.

#### Died at Seventy-Four.

John H. Teets died Saturday, Oct. 19, at the residence of his son-in-law, James H. Frank, in Kingston Township, after a lingering illness from consumption, aged 74 years. Deceased is survived by four children—Mrs. J. H. Frank, of Kingston; Mrs. J. D. Harris, wife of the ex-county commissioner of Columbus, O., John Teets, express agent on the L. V. R. E., and Walter Teets, now in Texas.

Deceased was born November 4, 1815. About forty years ago he drove a stage on the Wilkes-Barre and Easton turnpike, later between Wilkes-Barre and Tunkhannock. On the latter route he once suffered a broken thigh from an accident which laid him up some time. He was once a constable of Wilkes-Barre, and for fifteen years, from 1867-'73, he was toll collector at the Market Street bridge. Since 1873 he had lived with his son-in-law, where finally death overtook him.

#### Died in New Haven.

Mrs. Caroline S. LaBar, eldest daughter of George Shoemaker, late of Forty Fort, and widow of Eugene LaBar of Chicago, died in New Haven, Conn., Saturday, Oct. 19. The remains were brought to Forty Fort for interment and the funeral took place from the residence of George Shoemaker on Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The deceased had many friends hereabout, who will be pained to hear of the demise.

Concerning the deceased the New Haven *Palladium* of Oct. 21 says:

Yesterday evening private funeral services were held at her late residence over the remains of Mrs. Caroline Shoemaker LaBar, previous to their removal for interment at Wilkes-Barre, Pa. A few years ago Mrs. LaBar became a temporary resident of New Haven for the purpose of educating her only son, now a member of the junior class in college. Though somewhat reserved in manner and unusually discriminating in her friendships, her intelligence and culture, the genuineness of her character, her sympathy with distress and her willing aid to the needy made her many warm friends here. Few persons in so short a period have attached to them the affectionate regard of so many, and sorrowful regret will follow her remains today as they are borne to their rest in the place of her nativity.

#### FATHER O'HARA'S WILL.

His Estate Valued at \$30,000 — A Short and Simple Document.

The will of Rev. Father O'Haran, probated in the register's office Oct 10th, is as follows:

"In the name of God, amen. I, Rev. Dennis O'Haran, of the City of Wilkes-Barre, County of Luzerne, State of Pennsylvania, being of sound mind, memory and understanding, but considering the uncertainty of life, do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making void all former wills, by me at any time heretofore made.

First. I give and bequeath to my mother, Bridget O'Haran, of Ireland, three thousand dollars, to be paid her by my executors hereinafter mentioned, within one year after my decease.

Second. I give my large watch to my nephew, Patrick O'Haran, of Clongosse, Ireland.

Third. I give my small watch to my niece, Josephine O'Haran, of New York City.

Fourth. I direct that all my clothes be given to the poor of St. Mary's parish, Wilkes-Barre.

Fifth. I also give and bequeath to my said nephew, Patrick O'Haran, of Clongosse College, Ireland, \$3,000, to be used for the purpose of educating himself, the said sum to be paid to him within one year after my decease.

Sixth. I give and bequeath to my nephew, Rev. Nicholas Smith, of Hazleton, Pa., my library.

Seventh. I direct and authorize my executors to purchase and erect on my grave a plain headstone, the cost of which shall not exceed fifty dollars.

Eighth. All the rest, residue and remainder of my real and personal estate, of whatsoever kind and nature, I give, devise and bequeath to Rt. Rev. William O'Hara, of Scranton, Pennsylvania. (This, of course, is the bulk of the estate and will be used for the church.)

Ninth. I nominate and constitute Rev. Father James Comisky, of Hazleton, and Rev. Father E. J. Melley, of Olyphant, executors of this, my last will and testament."

The document was signed September 26, 1889. A. C. Campbell and John Brielin are the witnesses. The estate is valued at \$30,000. The will was signed but a few days before death and the signature is very feeble.

Col. John F. Meginness, editor of the *Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin*, is on a Western trip, and he writes an interesting letter from Peru, Ind., descriptive of a visit to the home of Frances Slocum, the Wyoming captive of 1778.

**The Late Silas Dodson.**

(Daily Record, Oct. 31.)

Wednesday's Record contained the information that Silas Dodson, a well known citizen of this county, had died in Jersey City, aged 77 years. The Leader gives this interesting sketch of his life:

He was county commissioner in 1856 with William A. Tubbs and Benjamin F. Pfouts. Mr. Lot Search was then county treasurer. The present court house was built under their supervision.

Silas Dodson was at one time a prominent, popular and esteemed citizen of Luzerne County. He was born in Huntington Township seventy-seven years ago, and in early manhood moved to Fairmount. He engaged in the lumber business on Pine Creek, built a saw mill and prospered amazingly. In partnership with Wilson Ager he invented several patents, the main one being a machine to clean and hull rice. To forward the interest of his invention he made two trips to Europe and one to San Francisco, in which place he erected a rice mill, and there he lived with his family. Afterward he removed to New York and conducted a mill there. It was twenty-five years ago that he moved to New York, and six years ago moved over to Jersey City, where he died.

He leaves five children and a widow, his second wife. His first wife died thirty years ago and is buried in the Dodson Cemetery, Town Hill. She was a daughter of James Buckalew, of Cambria, and a cousin of Hon. C. R. Buckalew. The children are Sarah, wife of O. N. Harrison, of Genoa Junction, Wis.; E. B. Dodson, of Galveston, Texas; Mary C., wife of Nelson Hess, of Jersey City; Harriet B., wife of S. Bruce Coleman, of Wilkes-Barre; and Elias Dodson, a member of the police force of Jersey City.

Mr. Dodson will be remembered by many of the older residents of this county. He was one of the most prominent men of his time in this section, and was the first Republican ever elected to office in Luzerne County. He was elected commissioner in 1855 and served on the board for three years. A sister, Mabel Dodson, now lives near New Columbus, in Huntington Township. She is about eighty years old and was never married.

**To Be Buried in Mehoopany.**

Mrs. Mary A. Jennings, widow of the late Col. J. C. Kintner, died at her home, 205 North Main Street, Sunday, Oct. 20, at 9 p. m. She was 50 years old, and death was due to paralysis and heart trouble. About three weeks ago, on her return with relatives from the sea shore, she stopped over at Easton, and while there suffered a paralytic stroke. After that time she failed rapidly. One sister, Mrs. E. W. Sturdevant,

of Wilkes-Barre, survives the deceased, and two brothers—W. N. Jennings, of this city, and Joseph T. Jennings, of Mehoopany. She is also survived by four children—Charles, a student at Wyoming Seminary; Joseph, who recently received an appointment to the State College, and Mary and Ruth, both of whom live at home.

**Death of Hannah Cora Smith.**

Mrs. H. O. Smith, who had been an invalid the past three years, died at 6 p. m. Monday, Oct. 23, at the hospital, to which she was removed some days ago from the cottage at Harvey's Lake, which she had occupied during summers for a number of years. Throughout her long illness she was a patient, though much of the time an intense sufferer. She was a native of Philadelphia, and was in her 73d year.

Mrs. Smith was the widow of the late Surgeon Waters Smith, of the U. S. Navy, who died in 1850 in New York, since which time she had resided in Wilkes-Barre.

Among relatives who survive her are Rev. E. H. Snowden and Mrs. S. A. Gregory, also two sons.

**Death of Mrs. Thomas P. Macfarlane.**

Monday, Oct. 23, at 4 o'clock a. m., occurred the death of Mrs. Thomas P. Macfarlane, of Kingston. She was a little past forty-eight years old, having been born Oct. 12, 1841. Besides her husband she leaves a family of two children, a grown-up daughter, Jessie, and Darte, a son of about nine years. Her death was caused by a complication of diseases, the latest symptoms being pneumonia. She had not enjoyed good health for a long time, but was confined to her bed only six days. She was the oldest daughter of William MacCulloch, of Kingston. She was also a sister of Mrs. John I. Wagner, of Oil City, and Mrs. Charles H. Wheelock, of Kingston. Two married sisters, Jean and Anna, and her brother, Will R., reside in Monrovia, California. The intelligence of her death will be sad news to her friends in California, more so because of their not having seen her for a long time, and because of their inability to reach home for the funeral, which will occur on Thursday.

Mrs. Macfarlane leaves behind her the legacy of a true Christian, a kind and devoted wife, and a loving mother. She had been a great sufferer, but so patient and uncomplaining, that even her nearest friends did not fully realize what sufferings she endured.

She was a kind neighbor and generous to a fault, and many there are to rise up and call her blessed.



**Death of Mrs. Prosser.**

October 24, about noon, Mrs. Emily S. Prosser, widow of Charles Prosser, and mother of Mrs. E. J. Sturdevant, died at the home of the latter, 27 West Market Street. Mrs. Prosser was an aged lady and had been sick for some time.

Mrs. Prosser was a sister of the late John P. Cox, superintendent of the Upper Division of the L. V. R. R., also of the late William P. Cox, of Philadelphia, and was the last member of a large family. She has been a resident of this city for over thirty years, and was a devoted member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, a kind and affectionate mother and a treasured friend.

**She Is 95 Years Old.**

The RECORD printed a few days ago a notice regarding one who was at that time thought to be the oldest person in Wilkes-Barre. John DeWitt, of Parsons' Court, corrects the item. He says his mother is the oldest Wilkes-Barre inhabitant, as she is now 95 years old, having attained that remarkable age on Thursday of last week, Oct. 17. Mrs. Julia DeWitt was born near Stroudsburg in 1794. She had a brother who died recently at the age of 105. The old lady is still well and hearty and eats and sleeps well. Fourteen years ago she was partially crippled by a fall. She is very little trouble, as she dresses and undresses herself without aid, and indeed requires very little assistance in anything. Her mind is still bright and clear. She distinctly remembers when she came to Wilkes-Barre 65 years ago, and is full of reminiscences about those days.

**The Bones Re-interred.**

Mrs. Sarah Williams, an octogenarian, a native of Plainsville, who died in May, 1863, made a dying request of her son, C. M. Williams, that she be buried in Hollenback Cemetery and that he disinter the body of her husband, children and grandchildren from the old Cooper burying ground near Port Blanchard and bury them by her side. A daughter of Mrs. Williams was buried there as early as 1824, and her husband, Moses Williams, was also interred there in 1847, with several other members of the family at more recent dates. The body of the child buried 65 years ago was almost entirely decayed, but portions of the skull were whole. Some of the bones of Moses Williams were in a fair state of preservation, as also were those of some of the grandchildren. The remains and the dust that encircled them were placed in new coffins and sent to Hollenback Cemetery a few days ago, where re-interment was made as requested by the late Mrs. Sarah Williams, who survived her husband 47 years.

Moses Williams was a farmer in Plainsville and a son of Thomas Williams, who was

a soldier in Washington's army and who settled in Wyoming Valley in Revolutionary days. Moses Williams was a father to C. M. Williams, of Plainsville. Mrs. Sarah Williams was sister to the aged Mrs. Downing, who died two years ago.

**A Hale and Hearty Nonagenarian.**

While D. S. Clark, of Kingston, was driving near Register the other day he overtook an old gentleman and offered him a ride. The old gentleman, who was as spry as a man of 60, astonished Mr. Clark by telling him he was 92 years old. His name is John Albertson and he is a staunch Republican—so staunch that he has never bolted the ticket since the party was organized.

**Back Again After 66 Years.**

The RECORD had a pleasant call Oct. 18, from a gentleman from Mason City, Iowa, William Slocum, who left this region 66 years ago and has never been here since until now. Mr. Slocum was born in Tunkhannock 75 years ago, and he has just made a visit to the home of his boyhood, the house still standing. At Lake Winola, or Breeches Pond, as it was called when he was a boy, he was delighted to find two old uncles on his mother's side, whom he supposed were dead long ago. One was David Patrick, aged 96, and Noah Patrick, aged 88. Mr. Slocum was surprised and gratified to find several relatives in Wilkes-Barre—George Slocum Bennett, E. G. Butler and Mrs. Ruth Slocum Hillard. Mr. Slocum's father was Isaac—one of a quartet of brothers famous hereabouts as men of great enterprise—Isaac, Benjamin, Ebenezer and Joseph. The descendants in Wilkes-Barre had Joseph for their grandfather. It was the latter who built the first brick structure in Wilkes-Barre—now occupied by Brown's book store. Mr. Slocum was curious to inspect the old building which his uncle had put up eighty-two years ago. He remembers distinctly coming to Wilkes-Barre to visit, but he can see nothing in the present stirring city of 45,000 inhabitants to remind him of the village of a thousand or two people as he remembers it. Mr. Slocum says his parents left here in 1823 for the "West" and located in Ohio, spending 15 years at Bellevue. Then they went to Wisconsin and afterwards to Iowa, where Mr. Slocum has spent many years in farming. He holds his age remarkably well for a man of 75, and he has greatly enjoyed his trip East, including as it did the several large cities. At Slocum Hollow, named for his uncles, he found the flourishing city of Scranton. Mr. Slocum has often visited in her Indiana home Frances Slocum, "the lost sister of Wyoming," she having been his own aunt.

AN OLD-TIME MINISTER.

His Glimpse Through the Vista of Forty Years—Some Interesting Reminiscences.

Hon. W. W. Loomis some weeks ago received from a long-ago minister of Wilkes-Barre the following letter which contains so much of pleasant recollection that the Record takes pleasure in printing it.

"\* \* \* Surprises are common, sometimes right welcome. This last week of leafy June has brought me two pleasant surprises. The one of which I write, similar to the other, was the greater, and in some regards the more agreeable because the greater and wholly unanticipated. Indeed, my recollection of the man had almost passed away. Both these old-time friends were delegates to the National Division of the Sons of Temperance of North America, holding its forty-fifth anniversary at this great gathering place. He, of whom I write and whose call revived into pleasant freshness many things of the dimming, was no other than Mr Calvin Parsons, of the borough of Parsons, near Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and who, after the lapse of forty years, has such distinct and pleasant recollections of me and of my pastorates in the beautiful Wyoming, and particularly of that in Wilkes-Barre, that he sought and found me at home in the mild twilight hour of the day. Calling me by name and extending his hand, he said, "You don't know me?" After a close, but gentle scrutiny, I answered, "I do not recognize you, though your countenance seems d'mly familiar." What else could I say? We had not met in forty years. Tall in person, his manly face aglow with smiles, and his head crowned with the whiteness of years, he deserved a recognition more than doubtful and hesitating. Learning his name and his home, my dim vision brightened into a gradually growing recognition. "Parsons," "Laurel Run." They had been familiar. I recalled them. The one the name of a family; the other of their rural home in the long past. I remember that a man by that name took me in his carriage, as far back as 1848-8, to that then quiet nook to preach in the white school house in the centre of the clustre of rural homes. I half dreamily recall that on one occasion it was for a funeral service. Be this as it may, I do not, I cannot forget the spirit of the man, nor the quiet of the locality—a beautiful vale and a beautiful name, Laurel Run. Why did not the good people retain thatophonous name? It is worthy. It is significant. The laurels may have gone, and the stately forest trees may have given place to houses. What of it? The "Run" is there, and "Laurel Run" has its rural significance even yet. "Parsons" does well. It perpetuates the name and memory of an honorable and excellent family, to be sure. But Laurel

Run is more rural, equally beautiful, and quite as historic. I have a passion for Indian and for rural names. You can't improve Pocono, nor Tunkhannock, nor Susquehanna, nor Laurel Run.

I would not write in this strain did I not know that my old-time friend Parsons has a preference for the old Silvan name.

My recollections of Wyoming life are in their outlines very distinct and agreeable. I bring up to vivid memory the names, countenances and virtues of many noble and honored persons in my church and congregation, not omitting others all through the valley. The filling up of the outlines, both of scenes and of men and women so long ago familiar, needs only just such reminders as the visit which Mr. Parsons gave me. A longer tarry would have brought to mind, as in a panorama, a much broader, though not a more agreeable review. Laurel Run has grown to be a borough of 3,000 inhabitants, of five churches, and of all other requisites for village life. Wilkes-Barre, then a village of 5,000 people, is now a city of 45,000. "Woodville" is part and parcel of the city. "The Plains," then the home of quiet but well-to-do farmers, is now an enterprising village. Of these facts I had some knowledge gathered at the time of my visit there a few years ago, the recollections of which are extremely pleasant. Wilkes-Barre being one of the several garden spots of my public life, I was much pleased that a gentleman, with whom I had not the intimate acquaintance of a pastor, had such distinct and not unfavorable recollections of me as to favor me with this call, to give me his hand, his smile and his parting blessing. I extend welcomes to others from the same region. With pleasant memories of you and yours.

I am, truly,

BOSTWICK HAWLEY.

Saratoga, N. Y., June, 1899.

An Old Luzerne's Likeness.

Attorney H. C. Butler has in his office an oil painting presented to him this week by his cousin, Henry Colt, of Allentown. It is a life size portrait of his great uncle, Henry Colt, after whom he is named, and who was for many years county surveyor of Luzerne when Carbondale was a portion of the county. He was also a cousin of the venerable Dilton Yarrington, of this city. Mr. Colt and his brother enjoyed the distinction of being the first twins ever born in Luzerne. Very naturally Mr. Butler prizes the heirloom, which, like wine, will become more valuable with age.—*Carbondale Leader.*

Probably the oldest resident of Wilkes-Barre at the present time is Mrs. Hannah C. Abbott, of North Franklin Street. She is past 91.

**DEATH OF CALEB E. WRIGHT.**

**His Career—Short Sketch of His Life—One of the Oldest and Most Noted Members of the Luzerne County and Bucks County Bars—An Author as Well as a Lawyer—His Death Due to Heart Disease.**

The many friends of Caleb E. Wright were surprised and pained to learn Monday that he had passed away at his home in Doylestown. He had not been feeling quite like himself on Saturday and Sunday, but nothing serious was anticipated. He breathed away quietly during Sunday night, and was found dead in his bed Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright came up from Doylestown and spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Emily Wright. Mr. Wright was seemingly well and was in excellent spirits. They returned to their home on Friday.

Mr. Wright was passionately fond of nature. Probably no man was more familiar with the haunts of the trout in the mountains of Luzerne and adjacent counties than was he. Almost every season he came up to his old home in Wilkes-Barre, and for years whipped the mountain streams with Jacob Bertels, Judge Dana and Dr. Hakes. Of this quartet only Dr. Hakes survives.

Mr. Wright was a man of fine literary attainments and for years he has devoted his time largely to the writing of books. The columns of the RECORD have been enriched many times by contributions from his pen, chiefly reminiscences of men and times as he remembered old Wilkes-Barre.

His works of fiction have borne the marks of real genius. All of them dealt with the territory which was so familiar to him—either the Wyoming Valley or with his other home, the county of Bucks. His first novel, entitled "Wyoming," was a modest venture, published anonymously, in 1845 by the Harpers. It found a place in their standard series of novels. Nearly 30 years passed before he ventured on authorship again. "Marcus Blair" appeared in 1873; "On the Lackawanna," in 1886, "Legend of Bucks County 1887," "Rachel Craig" 1888, and "Francis Slocum and Sidney Lear," 1889. All these pictured scenes that were familiar to him in his mountain rambles. Fact and fancy were so skillfully blended that his pages were of more than passing interest. The author's bent of mind was in every chapter. Sometimes a glimpse of the glories of angling for trout, again a flash of his legal acumen and still again a touch of that religious fervor which always made the author a leader in the church of his choice. Coupled with all this was his beautiful de-

lineation of how our pioneer ancestors lived and loved, fought with cruel savages and wrestled with the privations of the wilderness. His books are valuable contributions to the literature and history of his time.

The deceased, Caleb Earl Wright was a native of Plymouth, the date of his birth Feb. 4, 1810. His father's name Joseph Wright. After a study of the common English branches in Plymouth, he became a student in Wilkes-Barre Academy and thence went to Danville, where he studied law with John G. Montgomery. He had previously read law with Chester Butler in this city. After being admitted to the Luzerne County Bar in 1833, he practiced law in Doylestown and returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1853. He was the first president of the Doylestown borough council and while a resident there was also district attorney. From 1853 to 1876 Mr. Wright lived in Wilkes-Barre. While here he held the office of internal revenue collector under President Johnson, and he was also a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1874. After his return to Doylestown in 1876 he gave up practice of his profession.

He was married April 30, 1838 to Miss Phebe Ann Fell, of Doylestown, daughter of William Fell. His wife survives him, as do also two sons, Wilson and Warren Wright, the former of Monmouth County, New Jersey. In 1863 Mr. Wright was appointed a local preacher in the M. E. Church in this city, and Bishop Gilbert Haven ordained him an elder in 1874.

The funeral services will be held in Doylestown.

**DR. URQUHART'S TRIBUTE**

Of Mr. Wright's traits of character an admirable summing up is furnished the RECORD by Dr. George Urquhart:

An honored member of the Luzerne bar has passed to that bourne from whence no traveller returns. Caleb E. Wright was a brother of Harrison and Hendrick B. Wright, all of whom were born on the paternal estate in Plymouth, and of whom all spent the greater part of their useful professional lives in this city. They were all distinguished lawyers, and honored for their energy and steadfastness of purpose, which enabled them to devote themselves so sedulously to the study of jurisprudence, notwithstanding the early possession of hereditary competence.

Caleb E. Wright was strictly moral in private life, and added to a good understanding was a piety and virtue, which while adorning his walk in life, yet languished in the rich soil of professional activity to find its best growth and thrift in a private life.

He was a person of incorruptible integrity, amiable in all the relations of domestic life. He never acquired volubility of talk, and though not ostentatious he was a sincere believer in the truths both of natural and revealed religion, and his Christianity inspired him with a benevolence towards his fellow men.

His life was set off with a graceful modesty and reserve, and his humanity appeared in every circumstance of his conversation and in the complacency of his behavior.

Throughout a long life he adhered to the same principles and the same party.

To a generous scholarship he added the grace of a kindly and generous disposition.

His tastes and habits were literary and his culture liberal, and since his retirement from the bar he has been devoted to literary pursuits, and sages of the most remote past obeyed his call as counsellors and friends. The experience of his whole life has imbued him with the doctrines of human brotherhood. The spirit of New England culture took deep hold upon his nature, and improving his scholarship by diligent and solitary study, he made frequent contributions to the newspapers of the day, and the claims to authorship of a recent date have established his reputation as a writer of ability.

#### ACTION TAKEN BY THE LUZERNE BAR.

At the meeting of the Luzerne Bar Association, held December 4, Judge Woodward was called to the chair and J. T. Lenahan was elected secretary.

Messrs. Brundage, Hakes, Palmer, Kulp, Coons, Farnham and Lenahan were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions and report at a subsequent meeting.

Messrs. Hakes, Kulp, Farnham, Hand and Lenahan were appointed a committee to attend the funeral at Doylestown, on Thursday morning, Dec. 5.

Several brief speeches of eulogy were made. Judge Woodward said the news of Mr. Wright's death was a great shock. Mr. Wright had spent last Wednesday evening at Judge Woodward's house, just a week ago, and seemed in excellent health. He was full of pleasant reminiscences of the judges and lawyers of an earlier day. The name of Wright, said Judge Woodward, has been a familiar one at the Luzerne Bar for half a century, and all three brothers have shed lustre upon the name.

Mr. Brundage recalled Mr. Wright as an upright man, an able lawyer and a good citizen. He was particularly cordial in his treatment of young members of the bar. He was a wit, and as an author and a man of culture he was known all over the State. He had power before a jury, and among the giants of the bar—Nicholson, Kidder, Harri-

son and Hendrick B. Wright, McClintock, Woodward, Mallory—he was an antagonist equal to any of the rest. But his tastes ran in another direction. He was a man of generous impulses and kindly heart. His memory will be tenderly cherished.

Dr. Hakes said he was here by appointment. He had often promised that should he survive Mr. Wright he would enter an appearance at the memorial bar meeting. Dr. Hakes then continued: "Whether this is an occasion to mourn or not is problematical. His work is done, and well done, and his enjoyment of life more than complete. It is our lot to live in a hurrying age. The struggle, not so much for existence as for supremacy in all the walks of life, gains in intensity day by day and year by year. But it is excessively true that in professional life circumstances exist that make the present era one of intense strain upon all the possibilities of a professional career. As in business and commercial pursuits, the tendency is that the rich become richer and the poor poorer, while the struggle for mastery and the greed for gain is quite exhaustive of every power of the body, mind and soul. Competition in professional life is not less marked, and its destructive tendencies must be manifest, to but a common observer—that religion, morality and true manliness must be graded by a new standard, to embrace this modern order of things, is too evident to need saying.

Happily our departed brother was born in a more fortunate time, and educated in quite a different school from the present, and was so thoroughly grounded in the principles and precepts of a more tranquil age, that he quite escaped the dangers and difficulties that beset the practitioner of later years. Mankind must yet decide whether the ambition to be a great and good man is better than to pledge body and soul for notoriety and wealth. In fact I know that our departed brother looked with much anxiety and many forebodings to an overcrowded profession and new standards of success, and the inevitable consequences must follow from the intensity of the competition to gain even a living, to say nothing of a luxurious competence. In a modest unassuming manner, he practiced his chosen profession, the friend of all, the enemy of none, a good lawyer, an honorable Christian gentleman. His professional business did not enslave him for any purpose in its cases or emoluments, but he claimed a large share of his time to general literature, manly sports and recreation, to his friends, his family and the church of his choice. As an intimate friend, I have known him for many years, and the many days we have traversed the woods and rivulets together were to me, and I judge to him, the happiest since the

idle and innocent sport of our boyhood years. The example of his life is a precious inheritance, worthy our emphatic commendation, and example profitable to follow, leading to a happy conclusion at the end of about the extreme age permitted to mortal men.

John T. Lenahan spoke of having been Mr. Wright's student for a year. He was possessed of high and noble qualities and was almost without a peer. The recollection of his good deeds should be embalmed and enshrined in the hearts of us all.

#### The Death of Mrs. Rimer.

County Auditor G. W. Rimer received a telegram Nov. 16th announcing the death of his mother, Mrs. Sarah J. Rimer, of Fairmount Springs. The shock is a very severe one to Mr. Rimer. He has been prostrated four weeks with typhoid fever and is now only able to sit up for a short time, therefore could not get to her bedside, neither attend the funeral which took place at 10 o'clock Monday from her late residence. Mrs. Rimer was the mother of thirteen children of whom eleven and her husband survive her: G. W. Rimer, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Jennie Buck, of Renovo; Mrs. Cassie Frantz, of Williamsport; Mrs. Perlinia Albertson, of Kansas City; Mrs. Sadie Kepler, of Westport; Mrs. Rhode Laubach, of Sugarloaf, Columbia County; R. M. Rimer, of St. Marys, Elk County; Frank M. Rimer, of Williamsport; John E. Rimer, of Coudersport, Potter County; Mrs. Rejinia Falk, of Renovo; Mrs. Rettle Metcalf, of Leetonia, Tioga County. Mrs. Rimer was born in Hanover, Luzerne County, Sept. 30, 1826, and was the daughter of Lorenzo Ruggles, consequently she was 63 years of age. She was an earnest Christian and joined the M. E. Church at the age of 13 years.

#### A Good Woman Passed Away.

Mary Lines, wife of John B. Lines, died at her residence, 8 South Welles Street, this city, Friday Nov. 20th. Mrs. Lines had been suffering for some two years past with consumption. Mrs. Lines was born 67 years ago in Hanover Township, not far from the present borough of Nanticoke, where she continued to reside until 1836, when she moved to this city. Mrs. Lines was a descendant of George Espy, who was born in Hanover Township, Dauphin County, and removed to Luzerne County about 1778. He located in Hanover Township, where he remained until his death. He was by trade a mason, and built the old stone jail which was located at the corner of Washington and East Market Street. His wife was Mary Stewart, a granddaughter of Lazarus Stewart. John Espy, the father of Mrs. Lines, was a son of George Espy. Her

mother was Lavina Inman, daughter of Col. Edward Inman. Therefore it will be observed that Mrs. Lines was a descendant of two of the families that came early to Wyoming Valley. She was a woman of rare kindness of heart, and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She was generous to the poor, attentive to the sick, and no woman in the community will be missed more than she.

Mrs. Lines leaves no children, but a husband to survive her. She was aunt of Mrs. C. D. Wells and B. M. Espy, of this city. Funeral Monday, at 2:30 p. m.

#### Sudden Death of Mrs. Neuer.

Mrs. W. W. Neuer, of Park Ave., died suddenly Saturday Nov. 16, of heart disease, after an illness of a fortnight that had not been considered at all dangerous. The event is particularly sad, being so unexpected, and the family is prostrated with grief. The maiden name of the deceased was Elizabeth J. Drake, and she was 49 years of age, having spent all her life in Wilkes-Barre. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Drake, of 232 South Street, by her husband, W. W. Neuer and by two children, Stanley W. Neuer, and Mrs. F. W. Larned. Mrs. Neuer was devoted to her home life and was always of kindly affectionate disposition, a loving wife and a tender mother. The funeral occurred on Wednesday at 10:30 from the house on Park Avenue.

#### A Minister Over Sixty Years.

Rev. Vincent M. Coryell, the oldest member of the Wyoming Conference of the M. E. Church, died at his home in Waverly, N. Y., on Tuesday evening. He was 89 years and 4 months old and had been an honored minister over 60 years. His active service in the Wyoming Conference covered the period between 1828 and 1856, most of his appointments being in New York State.

Mr. Coryell was the representative of a family of considerable ability and honorable in every relation with their fellows. The deceased was educated for the law, but turned to the ministry from a sense of duty. His last years were made radiant by a consciousness of duty performed while strength lasted. The end of all things earthly was awaited with calm resignation and even with glad expectancy, such was the strength of his hope. It was just such a close of life as should teach all the best things in Christian philosophy to those who survive. Father Coryell, as he was sometimes called, was well known hereabout. The funeral services will be in charge of Rev. J. O. Woodruff and will be held from the house Friday at 1 o'clock p. m. Interment at Nichols, N. Y.

**DEATH OF B. G. CARPENTER.**

**An Honorable Business Career—Other Associations in Business—His Church Relations—Characteristics—Resolutions.**

Another of Wilkes-Barre's prominent and most respected citizens has passed beyond the horizon. Benjamin Gardner Carpenter breathed quietly away at 4 a. m. Monday, Nov. 11, surrounded by the members of his family. Although seriously ill about three weeks, the family did not give up hope until Friday last, when it was seen that he could not survive many hours, not being able to take any nourishment. His ailment began early in the summer, when he spoke several times of not feeling well. He and his family did not then consider his condition as at all serious. In fact they attributed his ill feeling to indigestion. It was thought that complete rest from business concern would effect restoration. During July, therefore, he traveled in the West and in New York State visiting relatives. After his return home he made a short visit in Afton and Abington, N. Y., being called to the former place to attend the funeral of his old friend, Rev. Dr. Olin. He then came home and resumed business, but did not seem to improve. Finally he consented to have Dr. Crawford, the family physician, called. This was three weeks ago. The doctor, after an examination discovered that the condition of the patient was very serious, the ailment being cirrhoels of the spine. Mr. Carpenter then took to his bed. For some time the lower limbs had been so affected that the power of motion was almost lost. A slight improvement was noticeable for a day or two at times. However, the nervousness incident to the progress of the disease made it difficult for him to take nourishment. From the first until his death the patient gradually became weaker and the end came at the time already mentioned.

The Carpenter family originally came from England in the early part of the seventeenth century. They settled in and about New England. One of the representatives of the English stock, Wm. Carpenter, was the last surviving member of the Thirteen Proprietors of the Providence Plantation and died at Pautuxet in 1685.

The father of deceased, Samuel Carpenter, came originally from Orange County, N. Y., and settled in Plains, Luzerne County. He married Nancy Gardner.

B. G. Carpenter was born at Plains July 2, 1827. When he was only about four years old the family moved to Afton, N. Y. On the death of his father the subject of this sketch came back to Plains. He was at that time about 13 years old. Soon afterwards he went to Carbondale, where he learned the tinsmith's trade. In 1847 he came to Wilkes-

Barre and entered the employ of Theron Burnet. A year later, and when he became of age, he was received into partnership. The store was located near where the new Osterhout building now stands. The firm soon removed to a small building on North Franklin Street, near Market, where the Harvey block now stands. Thence they moved to West Market Street, the store now occupied by Leach, and a third removal was across the street to No. 57. After a co-partnership of nine years Mr. Carpenter bought out the interest of his partner and Mr. Burnet took another stand. Mr. Carpenter's new partner was Emory Carpenter, a brother, now a resident of Princeton, N. J. During the time of the erection of the present business block on West Market Street, in 1872-3, the firm removed temporarily to the store now occupied by Metzger & Weiss. Soon after being settled in the new building Emory Carpenter's interest was purchased by B. G. Carpenter, who at once associated himself with A. H. Mulford and Frank Densmore, the firm name being as before, B. G. Carpenter & Co. At Mr. Mulford's death, in 1875, Walter S. Carpenter, eldest son of the deceased, was admitted to partnership, and the firm remained thus constituted until the death of the senior member Monday.

In 1851 Mr. Carpenter was united in marriage to Miss Sallie Ann Fell, of this city.

The ability of the deceased as a careful business man led him into other affiliations. In March, 1863, he was elected a trustee of Wyoming Seminary in place of O. B. Drake, and he had been connected with the institution in this capacity to the time of his death. In May, 1864, he became one of the managers of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and when the president, Col. H. B. Wright, died, in 1881, Mr. Carpenter was elected to the vacancy. Previous to being officially connected with the company he had acted as collector, superintendent, etc.

From the time the Scranton Stove Works was started, May, 1870, Mr. Carpenter was a member of the board of directors, and he was always faithful to his interest here, being a very regular attendant at the meetings.

He became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church when only 18 years old, and always retained an active membership. He united with the First M. E. Church of Wilkes-Barre as soon he came to this city, and was for many years a member of the board of trustees.

The deceased possessed much energy in business affairs; and the fundamental principles of honesty and strict integrity had been so ingrained in his nature that they made him valuable in every relation among his fellows. Thrown upon his own resources when only eleven years old, he had been thoroughly

schooled in business acumen and clear penetration. Thus his counsel in matters affecting the business interests with which he was associated was at all times valuable and was carefully considered. This was the case not only in his principal business partnership, but in his work on the board of management of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., the Scranton Stove Works, the Wyoming Seminary Trustee Board and in the official board of the M. E. Church. He saw the probable effect of proposed movements very clearly, and whenever he came to a conclusion as to the course to pursue, he was able from comprehensive study of the situation to surround his position with arguments that carried great weight. It was always thus, so that his advice came generally to be regarded as safe and eminently reliable. This characteristic however did not render him so conservative as to blind his judgment about needed reforms or improvements, for regarding these he was just as decided in favoring the course best suited to the progress and usefulness of the particular institution or concern under discussion. He was one of those most interested in the building of the new Franklin Street M. E. Church, and he was often seen inspecting and commenting upon the progress of the work.

In other church matters he was companionable and sociable. He never used many words or a flow of speech, but people were drawn to him rather because they first felt his sympathy and soon appreciated the sincerity of it. When, during the erection of the new church, services were transferred to the chapel, he used to assist in seating the congregation, and his first pleasure seemed to be to find seats or hymn books for strangers, and see that they were sufficiently cared for to feel at ease, and to enjoy the services. Instances of this sort could be readily multiplied. His Christianity was of a practical sort. It shone out through deeds rather than words. He had a great heart of benevolence, and always gave as his means allowed toward the numerous charities of the church and outside of it.

Mr. Carpenter was always hospitable. He liked to entertain friends, and it was always a pleasure to him to have guests in the house, whether they were his own or his children's. The various pastors of the church of which Mr. Carpenter was a member will always remember his cordial welcome, and how his house was always a sort of headquarters for them and their families until they were "settled" in a new home.

He was well beloved by many young men of Wilkes-Barre, who can never forget how he delighted to help them and encourage them in getting along in the world. When satisfied that a young man was honorably disposed

and willing to work, B. G. Carpenter was his sincere and substantial sympathizer. As a valued and influential citizen also the memory of the deceased will live long in the minds of those who knew and appreciated his sterling worth.

The sadness inspired by the gap in the family circle, however, can be appreciated by but few. Those who knew him intimately understood his kindness of heart, the close affection of family ties, and the permanent concern for the welfare and happiness of those dear to him. He is survived by his wife, by one brother, Emory Carpenter, now of Princeton, N. J., by a sister, Mrs. A. H. Phillips, of Wilkes-Barre, and by four children, Walter S., Jess G., B. Harry and Ed N. Carpenter. Another son, Charles, next in age to the eldest, was drowned in the Susquehanna River in 1864 while fishing. Besides these Mr. Carpenter has had in his family Bert and May Robertson, children of a deceased sister, and Sally Fell, a daughter of a deceased brother of Mrs. Carpenter. There are four grandchildren, all children of Walter S. Carpenter, Robert Bulph Morgan, Maudie, Benjamin G., Jr., and Walter S., Jr.

#### THE FUNERAL.

The last offices of loving friends were performed over the remains of the late B. G. Carpenter Wednesday. After private services at the house the body was borne to the First M. E. Church at 10:30 by George S. Bennett, Dr. L. H. Taylor, B. M. Espy, George K. Powell, George A. Wells and W. H. Sturdivant. The remains were followed by the pall bearers: Rev. W. W. Loomis, Judge Rhone, Alexander Mitchell, F. V. Rockafellow, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker and Anning Dilley. Seats near the front had been reserved for the relatives and representatives from Wyoming Seminary, the Wilkes-Barre Water Co. and the Scranton Stove Works. As the casket was brought down the aisle Rev. Dr. Phillips read a brief portion of the burial service. There was a profusion of flowers around the pulpit. The employes sent a large cross of cut flowers; the water company, a wreath of roses and carnations; the Scranton Stove Co. a broken column of flowers, and two floral pillows bore the words respectively "Father" and "Family." These were the most noticeable, and they were only part of the variety of flowers and potted plants.

There was a large gathering present, and it included most of the representative men of the city. The eulogy was pronounced by Dr. Phillips. It was an exhaustive resume of the characteristics of the deceased official and member of the church. The address also drew from the occasion such lessons of faith and hope as seemed eminently besfitting. He spoke an hour. Rev. Dr. Sprague followed, speaking more particularly of the connec-

tion of the deceased with educational matters, and dwelling more generally upon the Christian character of Mr. Carpenter. After prayer by Rev. J. E. Bone, the quartet consisting of Miss Cora E. Post, Miss Edith Puckey, and Messrs. Frank Puckey and J. C. Jeffries, sang, and the impressive services were at end. There were present a large number of clergymen of all denominations, and especially Methodist Episcopal ministers of the Wyoming District. A large number followed the remains to Hollenback Cemetery, where interment was made.

**On the Death of B. G. Carpenter.**

[OBITU NOV. 11, 1889.]

November mists hang drearily  
Upon the hills around;  
How chill and sad and wearily  
The pelting rain drops sound!  
And now must come unto mine ear  
A message sad—a message drear—  
My heavy heart to wound.  
  
Dead—dead—my old employer's dead!  
Sound on, thou pelting rain!  
An honest heart from earth is fled.  
And it were all in vain  
For balmy breeze and sunny sky  
To greet mine ear and meet mine eye—  
They could not soothe my pain.

He was a man—an honest man—  
And through the narrow way  
Of life his stream of duty ran  
Without or swerve or sway:  
He made his family a home  
Where perfect peace would wish to come,  
And never from it stray.

Not to his own offspring alone  
He gave a father's care:  
For orphan boy his warm love shone,  
Two orphan girls had share  
In his large heart; and charity  
Fell from his hand as quietly  
As perfumes greet the air.

The busy brain has ceased from strife:  
The loving heart is still;  
And yet his deeds are part of life,—  
Remembrance still can fill  
The chambers of each aching heart:  
For good examples ne'er depart,—  
They aye their balm distil.

—Frank Humphreys.

**Used to Live in Wilkes-Barre.**

John B. Mills, a former resident of Wilkes-Barre, died at his home in Riverside, near Danville, October 23, aged 77 years. He was surrounded by his six children, his wife having died 15 years ago. His children are as follows: Mrs. Theresa Belding, Mrs. Josephine Welliver and James R., of Riverside; Mrs. Eugene Lenhart, of Berwick; Charles D., of Fargo, Dakota, and H. Clay Mills, of Hazleton, Pa. Mr. Mills will be well remembered by our older citizens in Wilkes-Barre. He came to Wilkes-Barre about 1835, was admitted to the bar in 1839,

and practiced for a number of years. He removed to Columbia County in 1857.

**A Great-Great-Grandmother.**

The burial at Stairville, Nov. 26, of Mrs. Polly Stair, aged 87, of the Fourteenth Ward, recalls the fact that before her death there were four generations of the family in the house. Mrs. Stair lived with her two daughters, Mrs. Ferdinand Glantz and Mrs. Ellen Lutzky. Mrs. Deeter lived there also. She was the granddaughter of Mrs. Stair and the daughter of Mrs. Glantz. Mrs. Deeter's two children also were there, living with their mother, grandmother, grandaunt and great-grandmother. It is somewhat unusual to find four widows in one home. The aggregate ages of these four is about 217 years.

Mrs. Lutzky's husband was killed during the Rebellion, 27 years ago. Mrs. Glantz's husband has been dead but a few years, and Mrs. Deeter's husband was killed only a few months ago at Harvey's Lake, by a log rolling on him.

A granddaughter of Mrs. Stair, from New York State visited her in this city 20 years ago and had two children with her who then saw their great grandmother. One of these children was married a couple of years ago, and a daughter was born, so that Mrs. Stair was a great-great-grandmother several months before her death.

**Beautiful Memorial Windows.**

Those who attended the services at the Franklin Street Methodist Church, Sunday Nov. 24, for the first time saw the beautiful memorial windows, which were put in place during the past week, above the gallery on the lower side of the building. Two life size figures of St. Paul and St. Peter are represented as standing in niches of the walls of a large building, with beautiful decorations about them. The representations are wonderfully expressive, and the colors of the windows, which are extremely beautiful, blend perfectly. The inscription at the base reads: "To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Ziba Bennett—Hannah Fell Bennett." They are the gift of Mrs. John C. Phelps and George S. Bennett, Esq., and were imported from London, E.g., from special designs by Heaton, Bush & Bayne.

**History of Susquehanna County.**

Any of our readers who may be interested in Susquehanna County should know that copies of the county history may be had of the author, Miss Emily Blackman. The talented author's literary venture has never yet been rewarded the way it deserved, as shown by the fact that she still has several hundred unsold copies. It is not too late, however, to patronize her.



## SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO.

**An Employee Tells of the Changes That Have Taken Place in the Record Office Since That Time.**

J. Andrew Boyd, superintendent of the job room, celebrated Nov. 6 the 17th anniversary of his coming to the Record office. Mr. Boyd, Robt. A. R. Winder and Isaac E. Long are the only persons now connected with the office who were here then. Mr. Miner, the founder of the Record, is still hale and hearty and living at the old home in what is now the borough of Miner's Mills. Of the lessees of the office in 1873, one—Mr. Morton—died in Philadelphia several years ago, the other—Mr. Taylor—is the proprietor of the Montrose *Republican*. Mr. Boyd writes:

Seventeen years ago I came into the Record office to learn the "art preservative." The office was then under the management of Robert Morton and James P. Taylor, (the latter the present proprietor of the Montrose *Republican*) who had leased the establishment from William P. Miner, and was located in the building now occupied as Brown's book store. There was no dally edition of the Record then, only the weekly. The machinery of the establishment consisted of a Campbell country press, 1 Universal press, 1 old Gordon press, a hand press and a Kellogg Mountain Jobber. The motive power for the Campbell and Universal presses was furnished by a calcic engine that made more noise than a threshing machine. The motive power for the other presses was ye devil—not that historic individual commonly alluded to—but the junior apprentice.

No event in my life gave me more gratification than when I set my first "take" of copy, which was a humorous squib about a slow railroad train. My next take was a report of coal shipments, which was composed of columns of figures, and I set it so accurately as to receive the commendation of a "jour" named Rittenhouse, who tickled my vanity by saying: "Why you are a regular horse at figure work." Just what he meant by that comparison I do not know. We always went to press with the inside of the weekly on Wednesday evening after supper, and while the proprietors were at supper the apprentices and jous held high carnival. Several would go into the sanctum sanctorum, (which in our eyes was really a most sacred place) and tilting back the chairs would put their feet upon the editorial desk, while the devil would gather all the coal pails at the top of the stairs, and then roll them down in rapid succession, making a din fearful enough to a most rouse the dead who were sleeping in the old graveyard at the

corner of Market and Washington Streets. Presently some one would cry, "Here comes Taylor," when there would be a general stampede back to work. The most daring of those who engaged in these deviltries was Clem Rembaugh, who enjoyed the distinction of being the senior apprentice.

In those good old days the wedding cake, apples, grapes, circus tickets, etc., that came to the office were always distributed among the "hands," and were not all consumed and appropriated by the editorial and reportorial force before reaching the composing room. Indeed, it was an unwritten law in printing offices of that day that the comp. was to have a share of all the good things of life that came into the office for a notice.

The apprentice not only helped to "set up" and print the paper, but the distribution of it to subscribers was also delegated to his care. It was a great hardship to do this, especially in the winter, but when New Year's Day came around he was in a measure compensated for it by taking his carriers' address around to his subscribers and receiving from them dimes and quarters—mostly dimes. But one subscriber, who is of blessed memory, always gave me a dollar! In those days four "jours" and three apprentices set up the whole paper, and any stray "jobs" that happened along. The Record office now employs in its job office alone more workmen than were then engaged in the whole establishment. Times have wonderfully changed since then. Larger presses have been put in, steam has superseded the old hot air engine and quite four times as many persons are now employed in the Record office as were then.

**He is Delighted with Florida.**

G. M. Richart, formerly of Pittston, but for the last five years a resident of Sorrento, Lake County, Fla., was in town Oct. 24 with his old friend, Capt. Calvin Parsons. Mr. Richart was the founder of the Pittston *Gazette* in 1850, and brought it into the fore front of Luzerne County journalism, continued at that early day to weekly papers. Mr. Richart sold the *Gazette* to Dr. John Henry Puleston, but rebought it. Dr. Puleston has since won fame and fortune—fame as a member of the British Parliament, and fortune as a partner in a London banking firm. Mr. Richart spent a few pleasant hours with his old friend, William P. Miner, the founder of the Record, and they recalled many an incident of newspaper life of nearly 40 years ago. Mrs. Richart used to be a popular contributor to the poetical literature of Wyoming Valley, and the beautiful legend of Lake Winola is her creation. Mr. Richart states that Col. J. M. Alexander, who at one time, about 1853, edited the *Luzerne Union*, of this city, is a resident of Mount Dora, Fla.

**BATTLE OF THE MINISINK.**

**Interesting Commemorative Gathering on the Banks of the Delaware — The Fatal Ambush into Which Brant Led the Settlers of the Counties Along the Delaware.**

On July 22, 1899, was commemorated near Port Jervis, N. Y., the battle of the Minisink, an important engagement during the year following the massacre and growing out of the invasion of the Indian country by Sullivan's expedition. The locality and the event were so intimately associated with Wyoming that the substance of the historical address is given place in the Record. The gathering took place in a grove just across the Delaware River from Pike County, Pa., and was attended by persons from the river counties in both States. The day was a most enjoyable one. The occasion was the second meeting of the Minisink Historical Society, organized a few months ago, it to meet annually on the date of the battle. The meeting was attended by some 600 or 700 persons, among them Wesley Johnson, of Wilkes-Barre, secretary of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, and F. C. Johnson, of the Record, both of whom were elected to corresponding membership. Many of those attending presented relics and documents which will form a valuable nucleus for a historical collection. The first speaker was C. E. Cuddeback, Esq., a descendant of the sixth generation from one of the first settlers of the valley. During his remarks he said:

Prior to the French and Indian war of 1755 peace and prosperity had reigned in the Minisink settlements. For more than sixty years the settlers had lived on friendly terms with their Indian neighbors. They had purchased from them their lands, and by equitable dealing had maintained their respect and confidence.

The settlement rapidly extended its limits, and at this time occupied nearly all the bottom land from Peenpack to the Water Gap. Here in the fertile valleys of the Neversink and the Delaware had been established four church organizations. A young man from their number had been selected to be their minister. At their joint expense he was sent to Holland to be educated and prepared for his life work. In 1741 he returned duly licensed to preach by the Classis of Amsterdam, and for fourteen years he taught among them the faith of their fathers. Here then existed in this western wilderness a veritable Acadia.

Suddenly and in consequence of a foreign war a fearful change came over these peaceful scenes. The Indians who had been their friends became the enemies of the settlers; and at once there followed a campaign of fire

and blood which forced many to flee from their former habitations, broke up their religious services, compelled their minister to seek his safety in flight and when he renewed his ministrations to locate in a less exposed location. Of all these things we find a trace in the official documents of the day.

On Dec. 17, 1755, Lieutenant Governor Delancy transmitted to the Assembly of New York a special message informing it that "hostile Indians were infesting the Northern part of Pennsylvania near the Delaware River, and had committed several murders, and burned houses within a few miles of the settlements in this province, also that they had appeared in Minisink, Ulster County, and that he had ordered a detachment of thirty men from each of the regiments in Orange County and sixty from Ulster to march to the frontiers in order to protect the settlers and prevent them from deserting their habitations."

On Jan. 13, 1756, the governor sent another message to the Legislature, in which he advised "the building of a line of block houses from Machackemeck to the town of Rochester." Also from a letter written by Col. Thomas Ellison, of New Windsor, on Nov. 1, 1757, we learn that "the inhabitants of Orange and Ulster have been obliged to perform very hard military duty for these two years past in ranging the woods and guarding the frontiers." He continues, "one might as well have torn a man asunder as to have compelled those who lived in the very outside houses to leave their wives and children to become a sacrifice to worse than wolves."

With the return of peace in 1761, the settlers returned to their homes, a new minister was obtained, regular religious services were again instituted and peace and quiet prevailed in the Minisink settlements until about the period of the Revolution.

At the commencement of that contest it was hoped that the country might be spared the horrors of another Indian invasion. The Six Nations whose sway extended from the St. Lawrence to the Potomac were then on peaceful terms with their white neighbors. The Colonial authorities sent a delegation to their great council informing them that their difficulties with the British King related to the white people alone, and as it did not concern the Indians they ought to be neutral in the contest and to this the great council agreed.

Later on, however, through the influence of the Johnsons and of Joseph Brant, the Mohawk warrior, who was the military chief of his nation, who had visited England and received from the king a colonel's commission, they were won over to the side of the British.

Supplied with arms and provisions from the British forts along the St. Lawrence and re-

inforced and led by Tory refugees, the savages in the early years of that contest so ravaged and murdered upon the frontiers that the whole country rang with their atrocities, and the civilized world was aroused to indignation. All along the border from Northern New York to Maryland at convenient places were erected block houses or forts; places of abode and defense for the settlers, to which they might flee when attacked by the Indians emerging on their merciless errands from the depths of the forests. Of these there were six in the town of Deerpark, three in the upper or Peenpack neighborhood, built in the fall of 1777 or spring of 1778, and three in "The Lower" or "Over the River" neighborhood. Fort Dewitt stood where the highway leading to Cuddebackville crosses the Neversink. It was during the war, occupied by men, women, children and slaves, in all 116 souls. Fort Gumaer located near the residence of the late Peter E. Gumaer, deceased, had in all 80 persons. Fort Depuy, whose exact location cannot be determined, was abandoned and burned on the occasion of the first incursion of the Indians on October 13th, 1778, its inmates seeking refuge in the neighboring Fort Gumaer and Fort Dewitt.

The three forts in the lower neighborhood were Fort Decker, standing near the present residence of Henry G. Cuddeback, the fort at Daniel Van Auken's, where Abram Swartwout lately resided, and the fort at the residence of Peter Decker, situated upon the present site of the old stone house in Germantown, formerly occupied by Stephen St. John, deceased, and his family, each giving protection to six or seven families.

In the spring of 1779 a corps of men called nine months men were stationed at Fort Dewitt, and in the winter and spring of 1778 and 1779 others of these troops were at Fort Gumaer and Fort Depuy, which had been rebuilt, and still others at Fort Decker and perhaps at the other forts. At this time Count Pulaski's troop, under the command of Baron DeFrey, was located in Smithfield Township, which is now Pike County, Pennsylvania, and there were New Jersey troops, under the command of Colonel Sogden and Spencer, near Fort Shimer, in what is now the township of Montague, in New Jersey. All of these troops were under the command of General Edward Hand, whose headquarters near Fort Shimer were designated Minisinks, and whose commands extended from Warwarsing in the North, where Col. Van Cortlandt with his regiment was in winter quarters, to Fort Penn, now Stroudsburg, in the South, where Major Stroud commanded, and West to Wyoming, where Colonel Zebulon Butler was in command. All of these troops were removed in the spring of 1779 to take part in Sulli-

van's expedition against the Western Indians and that they might be located where they could be conveniently used, for such a service may have been at least one of the purposes for which they were here temporarily stationed. At the time of the two Indian incursions into the Neversink Valley, however, there were no troops in this vicinity to defend the inhabitants.

That they realized their need of such protection is abundantly manifested from the letters of Capt. Abram Cuddeback, a captain of militia, who commanded at Fort Gumaer, having received his commission from the Provincial Convention Sept. 26, 1776.

He, more than any other one person, seems to have represented the fears, hopes and desires of the settlers, and in the light of subsequent events a positive pathos is attached to his letters written to Gen. Hand and asking for protection for them, his friends and neighbors. In his correspondence he signs himself Abram Cuddeback, Captain M, on behalf of all.

On one occasion he says: "We may be able to furnish our families with food and necessities if we stay here. Gone from here we have no prospect of food or abode."

In another letter dated Jan. 17, 1779, he writes: "The great distance between the two stations in the upper Minisink, called Peenpack, fills us, the inhabitants, with apprehensions of danger. We have in the immediate past built forts in such places and in such manner as our former difficulties suggested and agreeable to directions given by Col. Cortlandt. We deem it our duty to inform your honor of our fears and of the places 'provided for troops.' The enemy no doubt reconnoitre our situation, and we have no reason to disbelieve but that our worst of foes, internal enemies, get and give them knowledge of our situation. We, therefore, beg the favor of a few men more, to be stationed where to you shall seem proper, and beg the acceptance of our thanks for those already here, whose behavior, both officers and men, is extraordinary agreeable."

On October 13, 1778, Brant with his Indians and Tories crossed from the Delaware to Peenpack, killed Phillip Swartwout and two of his sons near their home, which is the present residence of Benjamin C. Swartwout, also killed several others of the inhabitants, drove off their horses and cattle, burned their buildings, made a demonstration against Forts Gumaer and Dewitt without attacking them, and retired with this plunder unpursued.

On July 20, 1779, Brant with his followers invaded the lower neighborhood, burned twenty-one dwellings and barns, a grist mill, and the Machackemeek Church, murdered those of the inhabitants whom he could catch outside the forts, drove off their horses and cattle, and again retired with his plunder up

the Delaware. Some of the fugitives fled from the valley and carried the news of the incursion to Goshen. The Goshen militia early next morning rallied to the pursuit, were joined by troops from Warwick and a detachment from New Jersey. They crossed the mountain and traveled all day long, following the old Cocheecton trail 17 miles, and encamped at night about three miles from the mouth of Half Way Brook, now Barryville. On the following morning Brant, with a vastly superior force, turned on his pursuers, forced them into a disadvantageous position, and there on a table land along the Delaware, marked now by a suitable monument, during the long hours of that hot July day, was fought from morning until late in the afternoon that bloody battle of Minisink. Forty-five of the men who joined in that pursuit either died on the battle field or from wounds received in that battle. The monument at Goshen fitly commemorates their deeds. Did ever braver men die in a better cause? The terrible atrocities committed by the Indians and Tories in 1778, and told with exaggerations throughout the country by the survivors, wrought up popular feeling to a great pitch of excitement.

In rapid succession had come Wyoming, German Flats, Cherry Valley, The Minisink Road, and from all along the border there came up a cry for vengeance. On Feb. 25, 1779, Congress passed a resolution authorizing Gen. Washington to take the most effectual measures for protecting the inhabitants of the States, and chastising the Indians. On March 6, the same year, to Major Gen. John Sullivan was given the command of the expedition to be organized for that purpose. He at once set about the task and Wyoming was selected as the rendezvous for the main body of his troops. Here, after great exertions, in July, 1779, he succeeded in collecting an army of about 4,000 men, together with a great supply of provisions.

Just at this time the Indians and Tories showed great activity in making their second descent upon Minisink settlements and at nearly the same time ravaging the settlements on the west bank of the Susquehanna River, where they captured Fort Freeland and its garrison. Notwithstanding urgent entreaties for help from the latter place, Gen. Sullivan was not deterred from his purpose and detached not a man from his main body, replying to such an appeal: "Tomorrow the army moves from this place, and by carrying the war into the Indian country it will most certainly draw them out of ours." On August 1st the expedition set out on its march.

The remainder of the address dealt with some of the detail of the Sullivan Expedition, and its influence in

the struggle for freedom, together with a part played by the militia of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Westchester Counties.

After Mr. Cuddeback had concluded, Rev. A. S. Gardner, of Milford, delivered a scholarly address.

The following curious account of the battle is taken from "A History of the Revolutionary War in verse by Israel Skinner, M. D." It was printed by Collier & Canoll, Binghamton, 1829.

The fight, called Minisink, here meets your eyes,  
Where many fell by savage cruelties,  
The savage Indians, on the Delaware,  
Under the British urging on the war,  
Did most inhumanly their wrath display,  
Killing both old and young within their way;  
And vengeful Tories did with them combine,  
And aided them to urge their base design.  
These vile destructive wretches did display  
The most truculent acts in all their way;  
And inoffensive females felt their spite,  
And fell beneath their brutal savage might,  
"Brave Colonel Tustin, with some vallant bands,  
Raised from famed Walkill and adjoining lands,  
Straight up the Delaware did urge his course,  
In order to withstand the savage force,  
Up the said river they did march, to where  
The Beaver Brook adjoins the Delaware,  
When they discovered the fell savage tribe  
Crossing unto Pennsylvania side,  
Near opposite where Lackawaxen roars,  
And into Delaware its water pours.  
There they continued, while the Indian tribe  
Ascended, and recrossed unto their side,  
And thence descended fiercely on their back,  
And most ferociously did them attack;  
The river on one side their band confined,  
While savage vengeance poured on them behind,  
And from the trunks of trees on them did roar,  
And on their thickened ranks a storm did pour;  
When soon this pent-up band partook alarm,  
And fled the field to shun the savage arm;  
When suddenly the Indians on them flew,  
And many of those heroes overthrew.  
For near ten miles pushing upon their throng,  
Slaying their men as they did pass along,  
When through the wilderness the vanquished band  
Strove to regain once more their native land.  
In seventy-nine, the twenty-second day  
Of July, was this melancholy fray.  
Now, muse, recall to mind that honored band,  
That sunk in death upon that lonely land;  
There many brave illustrious men were slain,  
Trying the savage vengeance to restrain.  
That we those heroes may commemorate,  
We will some of their foremost leaders state;  
Benjamin Tustin, colonel in command,  
Fell by that force revengeful band;  
And five illustrious captains sunk in death,  
Who were by savage rage deprived of breath;  
Barzillai Tyler both the foremost stand,  
Next Samuel Johnson doth appear at hand,  
John Little and John Duncan, known for fame,  
Benjamin Vall last, that illustrious name;  
Lieutenant John Wood next comes in the song,  
Then Adjutant Nathaniel Finch comes on;  
Then Ephraim Maeten, Ephraim Medaugh too,  
Both vallant ensigns, do appear in view;  
Last Gabriel Wisner, esquire, doth appear,  
Renowned for fame, and to his country dear;  
All vallant men, and men renowned for fame.

Who fell upon that solitary plain:  
And lay unburied on that desert shore,  
Leaving their friends their losses to deplore:  
Thus lay for many years their whitened bones,  
Far from their kindred and their native homes.  
The men of Goshen, mindful of their fame,  
In order to commemorate their name,  
Collected their remains, what could be found,  
And them entombed at Goshen in the ground;  
And there a marble monument did raise,  
To testify their fame in future days.

## TO PHILADELPHIA IN 1795.

**The Adventures of a Luzerne County Man  
—His Trials and Tribulations in the City  
and Wilderness.**

The following diary kept by John Hurlbut, son of Deacon John Hurlbut, one of the Wyoming Valley pioneers, has been handed to the Record by his descendant, Hon. H. B. Plumb. It was transcribed in 1862 by Edwin Tiffany, Esq.:

HANOVER, Pa., Jan. 20, 1795.—Tuesday commenced my journey to Philadelphia. In the bitterness of the morning a most violent cold day. Warmed at Fell's, [in Wilkes-Barre,] which cost me 11½d., then on to Chapney's, 5½d., and at night arrived at Perrinvalts; the roads tolerable good sleighing, but exceedingly slippery, which worried me very much. I wanted good, warm nourishment, but found none but cold meat. Eat but little, was very sick, had hard lodgings, but blessed be God, I was much better in the morning. Paid 19½d., and went on 3½ miles to Berry's. Took breakfast with a good appetite, paid 1s. 10d., and went on in dreadful bad walking to Merwine's. Took the benefit of 5½d., then forward to Hood's, eat dinner, 15d. At night arrived at Hiler's, found exceedingly good entertainment and the smiles and good deportment of the Land Lady increased my liberality. In the morning I obtained liberty and rode in a sled that was going on my road, whose owner was uncle to Hiler by the name of Diets. He was of uncommon composition made up of a body similar to Doctor Davis, with a Dutch brogue, a humane heart, and a noble soul.

After I had 4s., 3d., at 11 o'clock, Thursday, 23d, I mounted on four huge sleds and we moved on. The day warm, the ground stony, the sled heavy and the horses lazy. However, we reached Bethlehem at 5 o'clock; here I paid 2s. ½d. freight, and on his invitation I again got on board and left the town after candle light and rode 12 miles to his own house. Arrived safe at 10 o'clock, almost perished with cold; took refreshments, tasted Dutch cheese, which resembled the

smell of nauseous, stinking feet. However, was treated with great kindness; had my hand bathed, which was very swelled and painful. Had a present of seed of a plant new to me, to be planted May 1 and poled like beans, which would make a wash good for swellings. At 12 went to bed, slept well and arose at 6 o'clock. Experienced a great deal of kindness from the whole family; had my hand carefully attended to; was compelled to stay to breakfast; the children filled my pockets with apples.

I left his house in Milford at 9 o'clock on Friday with my body much refreshed and my spirits cheerful, which caused me to sing like Christian when he had found his road. This day cloudy and I traveled fast, the snow melted, the sweat ran, and at night the "Pilgrim" had arrived on his journey 33 miles, paid 2s. 6d. and went to bed. This night I rested well, and in the morning paid 2s. 7d. and traveled to Germantown in a dreadful storm of hail, the snow having fallen last night shoe deep. Here I ate the value of the money I paid, which was 2s. 2d. Now the weather grew warmer, the wind blew, the snow melted, the rain fell plentifully, and I waded on towards Babylon, that great city.

At 12 o'clock on Saturday, the 24th of January, 1795, I arrived at Philadelphia, with 4 shillings in hand, one-half of which went from me to get leave to warm and dry with boldness at the stores. And at 4 o'clock took lodging at Col. Farmer's, in company with the most disagreeable gentleman I ever saw. One aristocrat observing that the French Republic was a government of tyranny, and called on his Maker to damn his soul if all the angels or God Almighty could make it otherwise. This day the dreadfulness of the storm, the weariensomeness of my limbs, the wetness of my clothes, the trouble of finding entertainment, and the blasphemy of the company caused my spirit to sink, and it was observed by one of the company who solicited me to join them in mirth and take a hand at cards, alleging this to be the only road to happiness. I politely disputed him, and arose and walked into the main street, took a dark alley, and with astonishment contemplated the goodness of God in sparing the city, thanked Him for His sparing mercy—and prayed for supporting grace. At half past ten the house was cleared, the doors shut and I went to my chamber and heard no more until Sunday morning at 7 o'clock; arose and got barber trimmed and went to church. Mr. Green spoke from Mathew 11:28, in the meeting house, where Mr. Sprout used to preach. I take him to be a Christian. The assembly was thin, but the deportment of the people was sober and becoming. This morning and all day exceeding snowy so that I believe some thousands of men and boys

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have been engaged in shoveling the snow from the sidewalks in the city. This evening I had a religious conversation with my landlord with none present but ourselves.

Early on Monday morning went on business; walked all the principal streets in the city with Esq. Carpenter; saw many magnificent buildings but not many curiosities. I have now formed a superficial acquaintance with the great city of Philadelphia; finished my business; had a fine pleasant day, and now I wish to be in readiness to hasten home.

Thursday 27, cloudy and warm; left city at 8 o'clock; breakfasted at 10, and at 2 arrived at the Spring House, 17 1/4 miles; took a 6d. refreshment; then onwards 7 miles and put up. This day I found the snow to be about knee deep, and in many places the water stood in the road that rendered it very difficult to travel on foot, and the teams going into market stopped me nearly half the time. My expenses this morning and to-day 2s. 4d. and at night came on and stopped, and was kept awake nearly all night by the jabbering of the Dutchmen.

The morning was cold but more pleasant in the middle of the day. This day I arrived at Bethlehem, almost sick, and the unvarying disagreeableness of the company which was composed of the country Dutch people of all descriptions, blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the Brandywine, and yet, notwithstanding, here was 200 people, men, women and children, four-footed beasts and creeping things, not one of the whole of this illbred collection could I be conversable with, though I made several attempts to it. I ate breakfast, had a most violent headache, and after suffering the most mortifying scenes of disrespect, at 7 o'clock went to bed. There I had an opportunity to contemplate the wonderful variety of dispositions in the children of men. I cast myself upon the mercy of that God whom my soul loveth, and went to sleep. Arose at 6 o'clock, paid 2s. 4d., thanked the innkeeper for his kindness to me in proportion to their measure and at 7 o'clock the "Pilgrim" set forward on his journey, took breakfast at Hartley's and paid 18d. and waded through the snow in a half beaten road and a violent storm in my face. At 2 o'clock arrived at Hiller's, wet and weary, where I intend to spend the rest of the 29th of January, 1795. At 3 o'clock it left off snowing and began to rain and continued to do so all the rest of the night very hard. Here I paid Cryman 16 dollars, and on the morning of the 30th traded some with Hiller and at 12 left his house and traveled in most dreadful walking to Berry. Passed the night without sleep and Saturday, the last day of the month, came home after night, which seemed to

compensate for all the fatigues of an extremely tedious journey.

**IT IS NOW A CHURCH.**

**No Longer Grant Street Chapel—Rev. C.**

**I. Junkin Elected Pastor Unanimously.**

The committee appointed by the Presbytery to organize a Presbyterian Church at Grant Street Chapel met in that chapel Wednesday, Oct 2, and proceeded to organize the church.

Fifty-eight persons were received by certificate from other churches and ten on confession of faith, three of whom were baptized.

The name chosen was the Grant Street Presbyterian Church.

Jason B. Davenport and Augustus L. LeGrand were elected ruling elders and S. B. Stewart and E. Sterling Gruber deacons. They were ordained and installed. Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., gave the charge to the elders and Rev. R. B. Webster to the deacons.

Rev. Charles I. Junkin was unanimously elected pastor. Messrs. J. B. Davenport, A. L. LeGrand and G. B. Stewart were appointed a commission to prosecute the case before the Presbytery of Lackawanna at the adjourned meeting in Wilkes-Barre Oct. 29.

**The Rock of Gibraltar.**

Our former townsman John B. Collings, of Scranton, recently lectured before a Green Ridge Society of Christian Endeavor on Gibraltar. Mr. Collings has visited Gibraltar twice. In his early boyhood his father—Samuel P. Collings—was United States Minister to Tangiers, Africa, the port that is just now attracting public attention, and died there. In 1804, while the Emperor of Russia was coming out of his winter palace at St. Petersburg a Pole made an attempt to shoot him. The attempt was thwarted by a serf, who threw up the arm of the Pole and the ball went into the air. Soon after the close of the American civil war Congress passed a resolution congratulating the Emperor on his escape from assassination. Assistant Secretary Fox, of the United States Navy Department, was deputed to convey the resolution to the Emperor, and the expedition for that purpose left in the monitor "Miantonomah," which was commanded by Mr. Collings's uncle, Capt. John C. Beaumont. Mr. Collings was a member of the expedition and went with it to many prominent cities and seaports in Europe. The voyage was a historic one, the Miantonomah being the first ironclad to cross the Atlantic. Mr. Collings ought to be persuaded to give his lecture to an audience in his native town.

# The Historical Record

VOL. III.

No. 4

## A VISIT TO WILKES-BARRE.

Squire J. W. Chapman, of Montrose,  
Writes About the Changes Since He  
Lived Here 73 Years Ago.

[From the Montrose Republican.]

During my recent visit among friends in Wilkes-Barre I enjoyed a very interesting and pleasant visit one afternoon at the residence of Wm. P. Miner, Esq., at the old Miner homestead or farm on the Plains, near Miner's Mills, on Mill Creek, some two or three miles out of Wilkes-Barre City, where his venerable father, the late Hon. Charles Miner, the historian, spent the last years of his life. He (Wm. P.) had invited me and my son, Charles Miner Chapman, now employed on the Wilkes-Barre DAILY RECORD, of which Mr. Miner was a few years ago the publisher, to visit him, and came down to the city that afternoon and took us on one of the street cars to his hospitable dwelling on his return. This paper, the RECORD, was founded by his father in 1832, after he retired from the *Village Record* of Chester County; and the daily was started by Wm. P. in 1873; now conducted by F. C. Johnson and J. C. Powell.

The Miners, father and son, having so long been engaged in newspaper publishing, and having preserved bound volumes, not only of these, but of nearly all of the papers ever published in Luzerne County from the beginning of the present century, in which the brothers Asher and Charles Miner first started, the accumulation presents huge piles of that kind of literature, interesting to present and future antiquarians, curious to revert to things of the past, including all important early events, marriages, deaths, business advertisements, &c., for two or three generations past.

Mr. Miner has also preserved a great amount of correspondence of his father with prominent citizens and statesmen with whom he became intimately acquainted when he was a Representative in the State Legislature and afterwards in Congress, and among the autograph letters we saw a familiar letter from John Quincy Adams, and his well known close up-and-down hand, and one in the peculiarly neat hand and uniform signature of "H. Clay."

There were also returns of election in old Luzerne when it included Susquehanna as

well as Lackawanna and Wyoming; and when Col. Thomas Parke, of Springville, was one year elected county commissioner, and another year Hosea Tiffany, senior, of Hartford, was elected to that office. And Jabez Hyde, of Rush, was elected sheriff of Luzerne just before this county was set off, and served out his term there, while Edward Fuller was serving as the first sheriff of Susquehanna County.

Having spent the winter of 1816-17 at school at Wilkes-Barre, then only in my 13th year, I remembered nearly all the county officers serving there then, which the bound volume of the old *Gleaner* of that period in Mr. Miner's possession verified, as follows: President Judge, Thomas Burnside, who succeeded Judge Gibson, who had recently been promoted to the Supreme Bench; Associate Judges, Matthias Hollenback and Jesse Fell; Sheriff, Vanloon (just elected); Prothonotary, Andrew Beaumont; County Commissioners, James Reeder, Lord Butler and Isaac Hartzell. George Denison and Jonah Brewster were Representatives at Harrisburg from Luzerne and Susquehanna counties.

Wilkes-Barre has within the last few years grown amazingly in extent from the old borough bounds, from North Street down to South and Ross Streets, and from the river southeasterly to Washington Street, beyond which there were scarcely any buildings when I first knew it, seventy-three years ago; so that the old borough seems but a speck of the present city limits, extended up the river to Mill Creek—southeasterly up the mountain side where Market and Northampton Streets used to terminate in the old Easton turnpike—away above and beyond the old filled up canal, near where the railroad stations are; and south over the old Sidney Tracy farm, called "Moy-allan;" and southwesterly away down the river bend toward Hanover Township. These extensions have, of course, given rise to numerous new streets and thoroughfares, and the old parts of the town have filled up with new buildings to a great extent—many old wooden houses giving place to solid brick blocks of from two to five or six stories, of stores, dwellings, halls and offices. Still I could recognize a few old familiar objects or ancient land-marks left. Among these, of the only two or three brick buildings then in existence, I found the old three story Slocum house remaining

on the south side of the Public Square, the lower story being now occupied by Brown's book store.

The old brick market house near the northern corner of the Public Square has long since disappeared; and so has the old one-story Sinton store, kept by the plain old Quaker brothers, Jacob and Joseph, which stood at the corner of Market and Franklin, in place of which is a three-story brick block, containing a bank and other business places.

I recognized the point where the old "Gleaner" Printing Office stood 73 years ago, where the N. E. side of Market Street turns into the northern bounds of the Square, and where the next building fronting on the Square was the store of Rev. Geo. Lane, a noted Methodist preacher of that period.

Alluding to Mr. Lane leads me to mention something of the clergymen of that early day, which those whose memories reach back far enough may be interested in recalling to mind. He came from near Oquago or Windsor, N. Y., I believe, to this part of Pennsylvania, and attracted much notoriety as a fluent, off-hand speaker, being remarkably gifted with easy flowing language not only on the circuit, but at the early campmeetings in what is now Brooklyn. He was once or twice presiding elder, but for some years a local preacher at Wilkes-Barre when a merchant. Though with only a common school education, he became quite famous as a preacher among the Methodists in Wyoming Valley at an early day, as did old Father Bidlack, of that valley, and later also the late Dr. George Peck.

The old Public Square, consisting of four triangular pieces made by the intersecting of the square by Main and Market Streets, formerly contained the old meeting house on the west corner of the crossing of those two streets, and occupied alternately by the Presbyterians and Episcopalians, before there was any other place of worship in town. On the corner, south of this crossing, stood the old court house, occupied on Sundays by the Methodists. On the east corner, opposite this, stood the stone fire-proof for the county offices; and on the north stood the old academy, opposite and back of the old meeting house. All these buildings had to be taken down to make room for present spacious court house and its appendant county offices, which now covers the entire street crossing, and obstructing the view up and down and out of both these thoroughfares, which is becoming an annoyance to many of the citizens, who already begin to agitate the subject of adopting some more commodious location for a future court house and other public buildings.

Among the oldest buildings remaining are the ancient residence of General Wm. Ross, still erect and well preserved by repairs and white paint, on the south-east side of Main Street below Northampton, and the old house and store of Judge Hollenback, likewise preserved, nearly opposite. Both these relics of early enterprise must now be nearly if not quite a century of age.

But when I was a school boy at Wilkes-Barre, the Presbyterians there had for a clergyman, Rev. Ard Hoyt, who soon after was sent as a missionary among the Cherokee Indians at the southwest. The Rev. Samuel Phinney was at that period the Episcopal clergyman there, and was also employed for some time as principal of the Wilkes-Barre Academy. I think he was the first Episcopal clergyman ever officiating there for any length of time. The church members who joined in reading the service were few, but the responses were made in the Litany by old Mr. Laird with his peculiar tone and accent, which I shall never forget.

Of the lawyers at the bar in old Luzerne that I remember, the eldest were Roswell Welles, Ebenezer Bowman, Nathan Palmer and Thomas Dwyer, who was also a justice of the peace. A story used to be told of one of them, who, like some lawyers of the present day, was noted for his shockingly bad handwriting. It was said that he once wrote a letter on business to Dr. Robert H. Rose, of Susquehanna county, a part of one line of which was so blind that the doctor, though an expert at deciphering blind writing, was unable to make out. So he cut out those words and enclosed in a letter to the writer for him to interpret. It proved to be so very blind, the squire himself could not read it, but wrote back to Dr. Rose to send him the rest of the letter so that he might see by its connection what it all meant.

#### A Famous Doctor Dead.

Dr. Truman H. Squire, a noted physician and surgeon of Elmira, N. Y., died on Wednesday, November 27, aged about sixty-five years. He served as an army surgeon during the late war, and was widely known as a practitioner of the highest character and ability; some of his cases having been reported in the medical journals of Paris. He will be remembered by the profession as the originator of the well-known vertebrated catheter, an invention which he refused to have patented, in deference to the established code of professional ethics. In the nobility of his private as well as professional character, Dr. Squire, during his long and active service, illustrated the highest standard of ethics known to a noble profession. His name is familiar to all of our older Wilkes-Barre physicians.



## A VENERATED MASON.

**Dr. Urquhart Pays a Deserved Tribute to One Who Was Well Known and Highly Esteemed in This Community.**

The appended tribute to the memory of the late Sharp D. Lewis was read by Dr. Urquhart at the Masonic installation banquet at Wilkes-Barre on the evening of St. John's Day. It may be worthy of note that the premises, now occupied by the RECORD, are part of the estate of the late Mr. Lewis, and that the sewing machine shop adjoining was for many years the office in which he transacted business as justice of the peace:

In celebrating these installation services on the evening of St. John, the Evangelist's Day, let us remember that St. John was the disciple whom Jesus loved, who outlived all his brethren and coadjutors in the Christian ministry, and who expired peacefully at Ephesus at the advanced age of ninety-four, in the reign of the Emperor Trajan, and in the year of our Lord 100; thus making the first century of the Christian era and the apostolical age terminate together.

A tradition obtains that in his last days, when unable to walk to church, he used to be carried thither, and exhorted the congregation in his own memorable words, "Little Children Love One Another." Partly in reference to the angelic and amiable disposition of St. John, partly also apparently in allusion to the circumstance of his having been the youngest of the apostles, this evangelist is always represented as a young man with a heavenly mien and beautiful features.

Brethren, this evening's entertainment is therefore entitled to significant consideration, both because it is St. John's Day and because here and now Freemasonry celebrates the brotherhood of man, and cultivates good will among men, and especially among those entitled to recognition in Masonic circles.

There need be no reluctance or hesitation in giving at this time a brief mention of its own singular history, as it tends to give worth and elevation to its aims, and to correct the slanderous imputations that Freemasons ever engage in conspiracies against the State, religion or social order.

It is true that there are vague analogies between Freemasonry and the secret social organizations which existed in antiquity, but the resemblances do not prove any historical connection between organizations so widely removed from one another in time, and besides this, the superficial resemblances are accompanied by radical differences.

Freemasonry now implies cosmopolitan brotherhood, a sociality which was impos-

ible in the ancient world. There was a time when Masonic privileges were confined to operative masons, and if time permitted, it would be interesting to review the causes which led to the introduction of a new class of members, and gradually converted the operative into the speculative Masonry of modern times.

In 1736 the first general assembly of symbolical Masons was held, and a grand lodge for Scotland formed.

At the close of the last century, French Masonry suffered from an invasion of mysticism; first, from the Scottish Philoosophic Rite; second, from the Scotch Rite of 33 degrees. When Lodge No. 61 was instituted in 1794, there was great rivalry between the grand lodges of London and York; and after the assumption of the independence by the United States, the lodges of America, all of which derived their warrants of authority originally from the grand lodge of England, or that of Scotland, availed themselves of the privileges possessed by such bodies in all independent countries, and organized grand lodges in their respective States.

In each State of the union there is a grand lodge composed of the representatives of the subordinate lodges, over which it exercises a certain jurisdiction. The officers are elected annually by ballot, and any employment of the organization which does not prohibit political, partisan or sectarian discussion in its lodge is a violation of its constitution.

As an officer of Lodge No. 61, F. & A. M., for twenty year or more, and at a time which almost antedates the present membership, I ask your indulgence for recalling a name which in the exemplification of good Pennsylvania work in this Masonic jurisdiction, and for the assistance rendered therein, is justly entitled to a full measure of Masonic gratitude.

There are but few persons present at this annual social Masonic banquet who can in memory go back a generation to the time when our revered past master, Sharp Delaney Lewis, was a leader among us in Masonic work. Past Master Lewis is well remembered in this community as an energetic, thorough-going Christian, and most highly esteemed among the fathers of the Methodist Church. Brother Lewis was early and favorably known in educational enterprises.

In 1880 he printed and published Chapman's History of Wyoming, and afterwards was for many years editor and proprietor of the Wilkes-Barre Advocate, a weekly paper devoted to the interests of the family circle and characterized for its moral influence and intellectual culture. The RECORD is its direct descendant. We remember him for his enthusiasm in Masonic mat-

ters, for his influence in Masonic circles, and for his devotion to the interest of this lodge, for it may truly be said that for more than twenty years he rarely missed a meeting, and during which time he took upon himself the performance of the most important duties involved in the work of Lodge 61, F. & A. M. The most difficult and important among these official acts were the efforts to purify and reclaim the work from the usages that had gradually and insensibly crept in from New York and other lodges, and also in establishing the true Pennsylvania work, as ordered and exemplified by the R. W. G. Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Brethren, you can hardly appreciate the feeling that existed then between the R. W. G. Lodges of New York and Pennsylvania, but an idea may be obtained of it by remembering that in consequence of the claims and pretensions of the two Grand Lodges in the State of New York, the R. W. G. Lodge of Pennsylvania repudiated both jurisdictions, and declined to affiliate with the New York brethren, and furthermore forbade New York Masons from officially participating in ceremonial work at the dedication of the grand Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

About the time of the early incumbency of Past Master Lewis, the R. W. G. L. of Pa. was exceedingly solicitous and critical in reference to Pennsylvania Masonic work; and in consequence thereof Lodge 61 was honored with a grand visitation from the R. W. Grand Lodge in view of exemplifying and teaching us the true work. Brother Barger was authority and an accomplished worker in those days, who, with the R. W. G. Master, and others visiting us, required Lodge 61 to exemplify her work in their grand and august presence, and as one of the actors on that trying occasion, I well remember our mortification at witnessing the hearty amusement of the Grand Lodge officers in witnessing our manner of procedure in conferring some portions of the third degree.

There was, however, the best of feeling; it was evident we were not familiar with the true Pennsylvania work, and while our good intentions were recognized and appreciated, we heard most emphatic intimations that some of our best dramatic efforts would not pass muster, nor be tolerated in this jurisdiction—whereupon we most solemnly promised and declared, that we were loyal to Pennsylvania, that we would at once familiarize ourselves with the work authorized by the R. W. G. L. of Pa., and that our loyalty should never be called in question; and that henceforth, we should abandon what was considered more properly as belonging to the drama or the stage.

As a man, Brother Lewis combined a suavity of manner with the better susceptibilities of manhood; and his humanity was found in the greatest delicacy of good breeding joined to principles founded in reason, and supported by virtue.

Lodge 61 was instituted Feb. 18, 1794, at Wilkes-Barre, and now, in rounding out the first one hundred years, it is doubtful if we can find on the register of our venerable lodge, the name of one who has discharged more important duties in it, or whose personal excellence and beneficial influence is more generally admitted than that of our late and beloved Past Master Sharp D. Lewis.

May this reference incite others to say something of personal interest to this fraternity. As a brother, his memory is endowed with unusual interest, for he was full of years and honors richly earned by a life constantly employed in promoting and securing the best interests of this lodge, and of the community in which he lived. He was untiring in his efforts to support the dignity of the oriental chair, to which he brought the capacity and personality where-with he adorned other stations, which showed his readiness and ability in forwarding beneficial enterprises.

Furthermore, his memory is cherished by us for that unflinching integrity of purpose, that simplicity and benevolence of heart and that kindness of nature, which gives his name a lasting luster; which we will remember with gratitude, while we shall continue duly to estimate the great united principles of Masonry and Christianity.

Several members of this lodge spent half the night with the G. L. officers at their hotel, going over the work, especially the oaths, and assisting each other in memorizing them.

In this work Brother Past Master Lewis was foremost: and in Masonic sagacity, we acknowledged him as our superior. He was intensely interested in every thing that pertained to the good of the order, and holding himself responsible for correct work, he visited the R. W. G. Lodge as occasion required, and having a patient and influential friend in P. G. M., Peter Williamson, who was an excellent worker, he familiarized himself with a work that placed Lodge 61 high among the best and most correct workers in this jurisdiction.

Brother Lewis was a willing worker and always ready to render any assistance that might be sought for or necessary, and consequently was a welcome visitor at all times in the neighboring lodges of Pittston, Kingston, Plymouth, Shickshinny, and White Haven.

He was social and unpretentious in Masonic circles, and in every relation in life he presented unmistakable evidences of the true Christian. His influence was elevating

and his personal example always strengthened the side of moral and social improvement, and the best energies of his life were devoted to the establishment of the truths of Christianity.

His manners and address were polished, and his presence was full of dignity.

The theory of human right and social progress has a Christian basis, and Christian philanthropy enters largely into the social features of Masonic life. Praiseworthy eulogium is dear to the memory of the past masters of a former time and the influence of such names as adorn the register of lodge No. 61, both in respect to the present and future, is unspeakable, and the element of their power is felt by the membership of the present day.

In Past Master Lewis' addresses at Masonic celebrations there was a benevolent solicitude for the fraternity that won all to a thorough and implicit confidence in him.

These recollections may bring to us all impressions of the social sunshine that now beams upon our fraternal association, and, moreover, recall the pleasant memories of our earlier Masonic friendships, which time has woven into a web of imperishable gratitude.

The ripened fullness of years in looking back over life's passage, necessarily sees momentous change; and those who have not yet fallen by the way see each other best by the light of pleasant memories.

May these annual banquets in some degree perpetuate as an imperishable legacy to the lodge, what is admirable in our venerated Past Master, and may his life as a precious memorial be always embalmed in the remembrance of this fraternity; and may the recollection of him always recall those pure conceptions and affectionate sentiments which rendered our personal relations with him a memorable communion, the influences and advantages of which memory does not diminish nor time efface.

#### Concerning a Deceased Attorney.

The Luzerne County Bar Association has adopted the following regarding the death of the late William Jay Hughes, of Pittston:

Whereas, Death has suddenly taken away one of the members of our profession, William J. Hughes, Esq., who was born in Pittston, Dec. 30, 1857; educated at Wyoming Seminary; studied law with John Richards, Esq., of Pittston, and Alex. Farnham, of this city, and admitted to the bar of Luzerne County in 1880. In 1882 organized Co. C, of the Ninth Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania, and elected captain of the company, in June, 1885, promoted to major of the regiment, the duties of which he performed with credit to himself and the service. He made the best use of his time and talents in the

study of the law, and after his admission continued to be a student, attaining a creditable position in the profession.

Resolved, That as members of the bar we are deeply impressed with the sudden death of our professional brother, Wm. J. Hughes, Esq., who, by his modest and unassuming deportment and legal attainments, attached to himself a large circle of friends and a respectable clientele.

Resolved, That we sympathize with his bereaved mother and other relatives of the deceased in the hour of their great affliction.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be furnished to the family and published in the papers of the county.

Resolved, That the following named persons be appointed a committee to attend the funeral of our deceased brother: S. M. Parke, J. N. Anderson, J. F. Everhart, P. A. O'Boyle and B. F. McAtee.

The committee which drafted the resolutions included Alex. Farnham, G. B. Kulp, F. C. Mosier, D. M. Jones, W. I. Hibbs and G. S. Ferris.

#### Buried in Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Lydia French died of pneumonia at the residence of her son in Philadelphia Jan. 2, aged 86 years. She had been ill only a few days, but almost from the first it was apparent that she could not recover. She had always enjoyed good health, her only difficulty being a slight asthmatic trouble at times. The deceased was the widow of the late Samuel French, of Plymouth, and was born at that place Oct. 23, 1803. She was a daughter of Moses Wadhams, who died in 1804, and a granddaughter of Rev. Noah Wadhams, who died in 1806.

Her surviving children are Mrs. Esther T. Wadhams and Hendrick W. French, of Wilkes-Barre; S. L. French, of Plymouth; Moses I. French, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Emily C. French, of Bethlehem. One daughter, Mrs. Cornelia B. Loop, died in 1856.

Mrs. French spent the past summer in Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, and but recently was able to attend the funeral of her half brother, the late Caleb E. Wright, at Doylestown.

#### Dr. Frear's Mother Dead.

Mrs. Hannah Frear died Tuesday, Dec. 10, at her home near Tunkhannock, aged 90 years. She was the mother of Rev. Dr. Frear, of the First Baptist Church, of this city. The funeral took place on Friday morning, Dec. 13, from her late residence. Interment in Eaton Cemetery. Mrs. Frear was the widow of the late Rev. William Frear, who was pastor of the Eaton Church over 50 years.

### DEATH OF WILLIAM LAW.

#### One of the Oldest and Most Prominent Residents of Pittston.

William Law, the widely known chief mining engineer for the Pennsylvania Coal Co., died at his home on Broad street, Pittston, December 26. He had been suffering from pneumonia and heart trouble for about two weeks.

Mr. Law was born at Wanlockhead, Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1829. He came to this country in 1842, settling in Carbondale, where he was employed by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co. as mining engineer. In the spring of 1864 he moved to Pittston and became mining engineer for the Pennsylvania Coal Co., filling that position until his fatal illness. He was a very energetic and successful manager. He would not permit any of the employees of the company to go into any part of the mines that he would not enter himself, and he always took the lead when hazardous work had to be done. He had great physical endurance. His most daring work was done at the fire in No. 6 mine, Pittston, several years ago, when, in fighting the flames, he was carried unconscious four times from the workings. He succeeded, however, in putting the fire out and saving the company from enormous loss. No small part of the great success of the Pennsylvania Coal Co. was due to his hard work and thorough knowledge of mining operations. The circle of his acquaintances was wide and he enjoyed the esteem of all for his excellent judgment and unswerving integrity. He was the oldest Old Fellows in Pittston, having joined the old Cambrian Lodge when he lived in Carbondale. He was also a member of St. John's Lodge of Masons of Pittston. He was connected with the Pittston Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Law was married to Mrs. Catharine Bryden at Carbondale, in 1847. He is survived by his wife and the following children: John B. Law, of Pittston, who was assistant to his father; Alexander Law, a superintendent for the Pennsylvania Coal Co.; Mrs. Adam Harkness, Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Teeter, of Dunmore, and Miss Annie Law, head nurse in the Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore. The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon.—*Scranton Truth.*

#### Had Many Friends Here.

Mrs. William Davis died her home in Independence, Iowa, Dec. 16, aged 68 years, 10 days. Deceased was a daughter of Davis and Sarah Finch, and a granddaughter of Rufus and Martha Bennett. She was born in Providence, Pa., and was a resident of

Wilkes-Barre forty-eight years. She removed to Iowa in 1868, where she lived until her death. Two sons and six daughters survive her; one, Mrs. John Polsue, resides in Wilkes-Barre. She lived a devoted and earnest Christian life and was member of the M. E. Church for over fifty years.

#### Used to Live in Wilkes-Barre.

Death has claimed at his home in West Pittston G. Palmer Steele, formerly a resident of Wilkes-Barre and well and favorably known throughout the county. The cause of death was kidney disease and the deceased was 39 years of age. He is survived by a daughter, May, aged 14, the mother having died a few years ago. He was a son of the late Geo. P. Steele, of this city. At the time of his death he was a member of the firm of Ellithorp, House & Steele, manufacturers of knit underwear.

Mr. Steele was married to Mary, daughter of Major John B. Smith, of Pittston, a most popular lady, whose death occurred several years ago. Mr. Steele's father, who died in 1870, was George P. Steele, a former sheriff of Luzerne County (1841-1844), State Senator (1856-1859) and associate judge from 1866 to 1870. Judge Steele came of pioneer stock, he having been descended from the Ransoms, who figured prominently in the early history of Wyoming Valley.

#### A Ripe Old Age.

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, aged 86, occurred on Thursday, December 19, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Dinah Morgan, North Meade Street. Mrs. Thomas has been a resident of this city for the past 30 years, and owned some property. Her husband, William Thomas, died 11 years ago. She was married to him 66 years ago at Llansamlet Church, Wales. Her husband was a superintendent of the Neath Abbey collieries for 40 years. Mrs. Thomas has been a communicant of the Episcopal Church for 75 years, and for the last 20 years she attended St. Stephen's. Some four years ago Mrs. Thomas suffered from cancer in the breast. It was successfully removed by the surgeon's knife, and her recovery from it at her great age was considered phenomenal. She leaves a family of five adult children: Mrs. Dinah Morgan and John J. Thomas in this city; George J. Thomas, of Hocking Valley, Ohio; Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, of Lettywiver, Swansea Valley, Wales, and Rosser Thomas, of Glais, Wales. She also leaves 29 grandchildren, and a number of great grandchildren. She had several properties in Wales.

**The Late Mrs. Stull.**

The RECORD has already reported the death on Dec. 22 of Mrs. Daniel Stull, but the following from the White Haven *Journal* will be read with interest:

Mrs. Daniel Stull died at the residence of Leonard Stoddart, in Philadelphia, last Sunday afternoon. Though her death was not unexpected, the announcement of it was a shock to her many friends here. Eliza Lewis was the daughter of Abijah Lewis, and resided in this vicinity during her life time. About thirty years ago she married Daniel Stull, and for fifteen years she lived in this town. When her brother, Albert Lewis, began lumbering at Bear Creek, Mr. Stull and his family removed to that place, where they have since resided. About two years ago Mrs. Stull's health began to fail and though everything possible was done for her, she gradually grew worse, and there was but slight hope of her recovery. Seven weeks ago she was taken to Philadelphia, but the change of scene and surroundings did not result in the beneficial effect wished for, and she breathed her last on Sunday. Interment was in Wilkes-Barre. Mrs. Stull was a woman of noble Christian character, devoted to her family, and solicitous for the welfare of her friends and acquaintances. She was an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and zealous in the performance of good and kindly deeds. She leaves a husband and two sons—Oscar and William.

**Barred at Doylestown.**

The funeral of the late Caleb E. Wright took place in Doylestown Thursday at 10:30 a. m., and was attended by a large concourse of citizens, including the members of the Bucks Bar. The officiating clergyman was Rev. Geo. H. Lorah, formerly of this city. Among those attending from Wilkes-Barre were Dr. Hakes, George B. Kulp, George R. Wright and Mrs. Josephine Hillman.

Appended are the resolutions adopted by the Luzerne Bar, the committee being Hon. H. W. Palmer, Alexander Farnham, A. R. Brundage, John T. Lenahan, Jos. D. Coons and George B. Kulp.

Resolved, That intelligence of the unexpected death of Hon. Caleb E. Wright, at his home in Doylestown, has been received with deep regret. While he has not been for several years an active member of the bar of this county, recollection is still fresh of the time when he was a practitioner here and of the generous qualities that endeared him to the members of the profession. He was an able lawyer, a safe counsellor, an eloquent advocate, a just man and a good citizen. At a ripe age and full of honor, enjoying the respect of his fellow men and the love of his

friends, he has been called to the reward due a conscientious performance of duty on earth.

The bar of Luzerne County cherish his memory and deplore his loss.

Resolved, That this resolution be furnished the papers of the county for publication and that an engrossed copy be forwarded to his family.

**A New Year's Poem.**

The appended verses are sent the RECORD by R. W. Hinckley, of 246 E. 25th Street, New York City, who was a resident of Wyoming Valley 50 years ago:

Pittston just fifty years ago  
Was a small rural village;  
West Pittston then was Poland's farm,  
And used by him for tillage,  
Friend Sax kept then the only inn,  
Jenkins and Knapp each stores,  
Four other tenements complete  
The sum of Pittston's floors,  
True, many farms were scattered 'round,  
With Doty on the hill;  
Friend Kenedy, where (Mosler lived);  
And Thompson, at "the mill."

Scranton was only known just then,  
By name, as "Slocum's Hollow."  
How few of the old settlers then  
Knew what was soon to follow.  
They knew that coal lay rich and fine,  
Under each rood and acre;  
But did not know its value for  
Till capital did take her.

Wilkes-Barre was a borough then,  
As now, a county seat;  
Dealing out justice then to one,  
Which now forms three complete.  
Drake kept an inn for many years  
Near Lackawanna Bridge;  
John Stewart was a genial host,  
A mile east on the ridge.

Among the inns of early times  
(These hostelries often vary)  
Was one at Plainsville, kept for years  
By my old friend, John Carey.  
But Stark succeeded him, 'tis true,  
Some fifty years ago;  
His cousin (Sheriff Stark's own sire)  
Was at the Plains we know.

Ex-Sheriff Steel was near the Square,  
As we the borough enter;  
Sam Puterbaugh, of the White Swan,  
Past of the Square—near centre.  
Of all the sites in this fine town  
There is none known to more  
Than Ziba B. Nett's well known place,  
For fifty years "a store."

Few of the pupils whom I taught,  
Living upon the Plains,  
Some fifty years ago or more,  
Alas! scarce one remains.  
To those living this New Year's Day,  
I dedicate to you  
These thoughts, his oric of the past,  
Which you all know are true.

—R. W. Hinckley,  
246 East 25th St., New York City, Jan. 1, 1890.

## THE NATIONAL FLOWER.

A Native of Wyoming Valley Shows Why the Honor Should be Assigned to Our Mountain Laurel.

[Written for the Record.]

Quite a discussion has been going on as to the proper flower to be adopted as the national flower. Helen M. T. Headley, of Morristown, N. J., has written the following letter in which she pleads gracefully for the laurel. The fair writer is a native of Wyoming Valley, and she is enthusiastic over a flower which grows in rich profusion on her native mountains. Here is her letter in the *Boston Traveller*:

The great centennials of '76, '87 and '89 have passed. The echoes of the cannon of our nation's birthday have died upon our ears. This historic year and century, with all its hallowed memories and associations, is waning to its close to be numbered with the years before the flood. Is not this an appropriate time for us to choose a national flower, that it may take root in the "new century"—grow with one growth and strengthen with one strength? I think so, and would urge the merits of the *Kalmia*, the American laurel, as such a flower.

It is a genus of evergreen shrubs, peculiar to North America, belonging to the "natural order" of *Ericaceæ*. It is dignified, graceful and beautiful, and in great request in European gardens for its foliage as well as flowers. It blossoms in the early summer, speaking of youth, prosperity and victory. It was discovered in America in the middle of the last century by Peter Kalm a pupil of Linnaeus, and named by that "prince of naturalists" *Kalmia*, in his honor. He remained here three years studying our flora, and on his return found his teacher Linnaeus ill with the gout and unable to move, but the sight of the specimen brought by Kalm, so exhilarated and enlivened his spirits that he forgot his anguish and recovered. It is said that the flowers went to him to be named, as the animals went to Adam.

The sight of the "Stars and the Stripes" has brought new life and a quicker pulse, to many a weary exile, away from home and friends. I would that we could re-christen the American laurel, plant it anew in this centennial year, as our national flower, beneath the shadow of our "star-spangled-banner," that one may ever recall the other, that we may point to it with as pardonable pride as England to her rose, France to her lily, Ireland to her shamrock, or Scotland to her thistle.

Since the lay of the first minstrel was heard in the land, history and poetry have crowned the brows of her heroes with laurel—but not our American laurel. Theirs was

the "Sweet Bay" (*Laurus nobilis*) of the old Linnaean class of *Enneandria*—and grew in the southern part of Europe and northern part of Africa. Their leaves were very similar to ours, lanceolate, leathery and perennial, but their flower was small and inconspicuous—4-cleft of yellow-white and grew in racemes three or four together, upon a common peduncle in the axils of the leaves. Our flower appear in corymbs; profuse, large and very showy, in brilliant hues from deep rose to nearly white; has ten stamens confined by their anthers in ten cavities of a star-pointed monopetalous corolla. One blossom is suitable for a "boutonnier"—Very beautiful for a vase. The American laurel is found in all sections of United States—from ocean to ocean—from lake to gulf—it belong to us—its ours. Sentiment or art has not yet disowned it. It is unknown in story or in song.

The *Epigæa*, ground laurel or trailing arbutus, is of the same family—the *Ericaceæ*—but let the Pilgrims have it exclusively. It was the first welcome received by them on the shores of their "ice-rimmed bay."

"God be praised," the Pilgrims said.

Who saw the blossoms peer

Above the brown leaves, dry and dead.

"Behold our May flower here."

Then let it be their flower—theirs alone. While we adopt the *kalmia*, the American laurel, our native mountain laurel, as the national flower of free America. Its ever green leaves, its monopetalous corolla—seemingly many petals, but only one, one and undivided, speak for the American Union—*E pluribus Unum*.

## SECOND LETTER.

I have a few more words to say about the laurel, my candidate for national honors. Each voice helps to ripple the surface and increase the gale, and when the groundswell comes in may the voice be in unmistakable accents,

"*Kalmia*, the American laurel."

The order *Ericaceæ*, to which it belongs, is distributed nearly all over the world, and the sub-order *Ericinea* contains genera, viz.:

*Epigæa*, the ground laurel;

*Kalmia*, the American laurel, and

*Rhododendron*, the great laurel.

*Epigæa*, commonly called the Mayflower or trailing arbutus, is common in Europe, where it is held in high estimation, and is indigenous to this country, prevailing in the sandy woods and rocky soils of New England. It trails along the ground, bristling with rusty hairs, has rounded and heart-shaped leaves, salver-formed, rose-colored flowers, that appear in May, exhaling a rich, spicy odor.

The Pilgrims came, leaving home for Holland, Holland for the sea, and sanctified the barren rocks of Plymouth Bay, by their

faith. They left unstained for us, what they found there, freedom to worship God. Let us leave them their Mayflower as incense to their memory.

America wants a prouder, statelier flower as her emblem. We have it in our second genus, "Kalmia, the American laurel." Her eagle found it on the mountain, above the rock where trailed the ground laurel, and there he built his eyrie. From the snow-capped summits of New Hampshire his piercing eye could scan the mountain tops of the Keystone State, where it grows in magnificent profusion, the water-courses of the Alleghanies, and the hills that overlook the sunny plains of the South,—and on, still further, to California, then northward to Oregon, and to the foot of Mt. St. Elias in Alaska,—yea, even to the Pacific slope, where break the dashing waves.

The flowers grow in simple or clustered terminal corymbs, the corolla between wheel and bell shape, varying from deep rose to white. Its bright green leaves, tapering to each end, light up the winter's landscape, and are available at all seasons for decoration. They are also beneficially used, having a place in our "Materia Medica." It blooms in June and on the 17th is in perfection—the day when the "old bell of '76" struck her first note for freedom, in our defeat at Bunker Hill.

The wood is very smooth, close grained and hard, susceptible of a fine polish, and more nearly resembles the box than any other North American wood. It is well adapted for the turner's use in many small ornamental articles. Its roots are marked with red lines, as if drenched with the blood of patriotism—red and white—symbolic of our "stripes."

In 1751, when Kalm discovered this genus on American soil, the original 13 States were struggling for their birth of freedom and independence. In accordance with the spirit of the age æsthetic and utilitarian, Kalmia offers her leaves, flowers, wood, and lays them as her contribution on the shrine of America, who has already stamped it upon her coin, and entwined it around her head of Liberty. The architect and decorator can copy it literally in dado, frieze and pilaster. It readily adapts itself to artificial cultivation, and we could all grow it in our gardens.

Rhododendron, the third genus in my trio, the great laurel, is a native of Armenia, and was familiar to the ancients, from whom the generic name has been derived. There is an appropriateness in our using it with the American laurel, for it has been Americanized, and our population is the result of *transplanting*. It is a great favorite with florists, who cultivate many species, and from whom the leaves can always be obtained. It grows wild on the mountains and

along the waters of our rivers in Georgia and Carolina, and adapts itself also to cultivation. The flowers are disposed in elegant clusters, the leaves are dark, rich green and perennial. The wood is hard, compact and fine grained, but inferior to the Kalmia, the American species.

My trio of laurels, (ground, American and great,) closely allied in one family, I would link together, as the compact made on board the Mayflower, the Declaration of Independence and the constitution are linked together, all laurel, all Mayflower. America bends her uncrowned head, in this the waning morning hour of her national centennials, for her wreath of laurel. May her proud and grateful children place upon her brow the Kalmia, the American laurel, so that

"When from his mansion in the sun  
She calls her eagle bearer down,  
And gives into his mighty hand  
The symbol of her happy land,"

It may be his own American laurel, our Kalmia. "Vox populi—vox Dei."

HELEN M. T. HEADLEY,  
Descendant of John Alden and Priscilla,  
Morristown, N. J.

#### THIRD LETTER.

Again I write, making a trio of letters to correspond to my "trio of laurels." This is my apotheosis of the kalmia, and consequently my last.

The pyramids have forgotten the names of their builders, but the lotus lives in that Eastern clime, and springs each year exultingly from her watery couch to kiss the morning dew, along the crumbling walls of the fallen cities.

The fathers of our republic "built better than they knew," for each of their names is cut in stone upon our nation's bulwark, the constitution. The name of Washington stands first and foremost on that roll of honor, for his "footsteps on the sands of time" left an impress which the storms of a century have not obliterated. Let us crown its glory with perennial verdure by scattering laurel o'er its bier—the bier of 100 years—by making kalmia, our American genus, our national flower—and its coriaceous, evergreen leaf our national decoration—a flower so beautiful that every stage of its unfolding would adorn the easel of an artist, the model of a sculptor, the frieze for home or temple; a flower so simple in its classic loveliness that every one would recognize it without color, and in the nearest outline; a leaf so rich, so dark, so glossy, that it would be an appropriate symbol without a flower! Will not the prestige of '89 do this, with all its historic influence? The son and heir doth

ride post-haste, and it will soon be remembered with the years that were.

In letter No. 2 I left our American eagle (*F. lancocephalus*), our emblem of courage, heroism and magnanimity, our military ensign chosen by Washington, that went before our armies, inciting them to victory, honor and glory, proudly perched upon a ridge of the Sierras, on the Pacific slope, calmly surveying nature, that "elder Scripture writ by God's own hand." I would make him our "envoy" most "extraordinary," our "minister" most plenipotentiary to the court of the American people, the Temple of Justice, where our proud goddess still bends her uncrowned head for her crown of native laurel.

Absorbed in thought as a diplomat, I saw him commence to make the crown. He had plucked a spray from each State, taking tribute, as he scaled the clouds and drank in the sunshine, and now, rising on exulting wings, he began his homeward flight with his unfinished crown, still demanding tribute as he flew. I bade him stop on "Susquehanna's side, fair Wyoming," in the Keystone State for the key-spray of his crown; for there I played a child and roamed a maiden, and I knew it grew on every river side, on every mountain slope. I met him there with sprigs from "Prospect Rock," "Laurel Run," "Honey Pot," "Toby's Eddy" and "Campbell's Ledge," and at the last, immortalized by poet's song, where Waldegrave made laurel wreaths for fair Gertrude's hair, he found his key-spray, and his crown was done.

Prone to tradition I inquired, "What of goldenrod, daisy and violet?"

Quoth the eagle (raising his crown): "Only this and nothing more."

Again I asked, "What of aster, morning glory and forget-me-not?"

Quoth the eagle, "Nameless here forever more."

Again I ventured, "What of magnolia, sunflower and foxglove?"

Quoth the eagle, "'Tis the wind and nothing more."

Again I interrogated, "What of phlox, larkspur and smilax?"

Quoth the eagle, "Darkness here forever more."

Again I interviewed, "What of maize, cauliflower and tobacco?"

Quoth the eagle, "Nevermore, nevermore, never—more."

Rising to the occasion, I said, "What of clover?"

Solemnly closing his wings, he perched and sat, and the winds sighed through the laurel boughs, "An encroachment on the Irishmen's shamrock."

Enraptured I shouted, "Kalmia, the American laurel?"

Loudly clapping his wings and screaming, "That it is and nothing more," he flew away to his eyrie above the "rock" where first he saw the blossoms "rosy white" on the snow-capped summits of New England's mountain, and the echoes were borne back to me triumphantly.

Kalmia, the American laurel. "That it is and nothing more." Noble, heroic bird, your work is done, and well done—a contribution from North, South, East and West. A finished crown of native laurel. The uncrowned head is waiting to receive it from her chosen armor-bearer. As messenger of Jove and carrier of his lightning never had you so important a mission. Shall the laurel crown—evergreen till time shall be no more—be placed upon the uncrowned head? I trow so. Vive la republique!

Sail on, O ship of State,  
Sail on, O union, strong and great,  
Humanity, with all its fears,  
With all its hopes of future years,  
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

HELEN M. T. HEADLEY.

Morristown, N. J., 1899.

#### Brant, the Mohawk Chief.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for December has among other excellent contributions a valuable and interesting paper by John Fiske, entitled, "Border Warfare of the Revolution." The article, while of wide general interest, is especially worthy of being read by the people of the Wyoming Valley, because of interesting summary of the depredations of the savages in our own valley. The author writes in an appreciative strain of Joseph Brant, the great Mohawk chief, who, he says, was educated by Sir William Johnson in various schools and at Dartmouth College, where he became expert in the use of the English language, acquiring also considerable knowledge of general literature and history. After leaving school he became a member of the Episcopal Church, and for a time engaged in missionary work among the Mohawks and translated the prayer book and parts of the New Testament into his native tongue. He was a man of earnest and serious character and was devoted to the church throughout his life. But, notwithstanding his devout missionary character, he also possessed all the attributes of an Iroquois war chief, developed by his civilized training to the highest degree of efficiency, and he excelled in all those accomplishments prized by the Indian braves. It is odd to think of Brant, who could outyell any of his tribe on the battlefield, sitting at table with Burke and Sheridan, and behaving with the modest grace of an English gentleman. The tincture of civilization he had acquired, moreover, was



not wholly superficial. Though engaged in many a murderous attack, his conduct was not marked by the ferocity so characteristic of the Iroquois. He often went out of his way to rescue women and children from the tomahawk, and the instances of his magnanimity toward suppliant enemies were very numerous, and this is the man of whom Campbell wrote—

"He comes! the foe, the monster Brant."

#### AN ESSAY ON WYOMING MASSACRE

Takes the Prize Offered to School Pupils by the Nanticoke Sun.

Recently the Nanticoke *Sun* offered two prizes for the the best essays that should be submitted by the pupils of the high school. The contest was reported and the essays were submitted—without names of writers—to J. M. Garman for adjudication. He awards first prize (six dollars) to Katie Shea, and second (four dollars) to John B. Williams. On account of its local topic the Record appends Miss Shea's essay. Mr. Williams wrote on "The Landing of the Pilgrims," and both are printed in this week's *Sun*:

Wyoming, a beautiful, fertile tract on the Susquehanna river, here in our own county, lying northeast and southwest, is enclosed by stately rugged mountains. Here let the far off, distant thought artist paint his picture. In 1764 the Connecticut Susquehanna Company purchased this tract from the Six Nations, however no permanent settlement was made until 1762. In 1769 the Susquehanna Company sent forty (40) pioneers, who found themselves forestalled by some Pennsylvanians. In the preceding year the Six Nations had again sold the land to the proprietarie of Pennsylvania. For the next six years Wyoming was the scene of numerous conflicts. In 1778 Major John Butler, a tory of Niagara, organized a body of about 400 British provincials and 700 Indians and entered this territory, which was defenseless, its best men having fallen in the Continental armies, and prepared for an attack. The trouble thus revived from the selling of this land twice. Both being under charter as well as by purchase claimed the soil, the Connecticut, meanwhile, retaining their stay to the valley. On July 3d the principal fortification, Forty Fort, was ordered to surrender and the available military force under Col. Zebulon Butler, a Continental officer, having decided to give battle, were, after a desperate struggle on the same day, defeated and driven back to the

fort, with a loss of two-thirds of their number, whom the Indians and tories massacred with every circumstance of savage cruelty, not even the prisoners being prepared. Queen Esther, a half breed Indian woman, to avenge the death of her son, tomahawked fourteen (14) with her own hands near a rock which still bears her name. The fort at last surrendered, July 5. Notwithstanding the promises made by the British commander, the Indians showed so little respect for life or property that the surviving inhabitants fled to a fort near the present site of Wilkes-Barre. The number who perished during this massacre probably exceeded 100. The vexed question of title to territory which had remained in abeyance between Connecticut and the proprietaries of Pennsylvania again rose and renewed fresh strife. A commission by Congress, after several petty battles by the land holders, was ordered to settle the matter. This commission reported in favor of Pennsylvania. On attempt by the authorities of that State to eject the settlers, they arose once more in arms. In 1783 the legislative assembly of Pennsylvania quieted all matters by law and confirmed the settlers in their places. It was not, however, until the present century that a feeling of peace reigned through this sunny dale. Draw down the veil of time and let us think of it as an event of the sleeping past.

Wyoming is now a sunny vale, all day long the rippling waters make music to the towering hills, as

At night the stars in regal reign,  
Glimmer and dance to the moonlit main:  
As o'er this vale so mystic bright,  
Darkening beauty holds the night.

Dec. 14, 1889.

KATIE A. SHEA.

#### Aboriginal Remains Found.

[Mauch Chunk Gazette.]

The Indian names of Mauch Chunk, Nesquehoning, Poho Poko, Aquashicola and Mahoning, are quite suggestive of the fact that in the early days the red men were possessors of the entire lands in this vicinity and occupied the mountain slopes and plateaus overlooking the creeks and rivers, as their camping grounds. Dr. B. S. Erwin stimulated the looking up of relics by arranging on a large card for inspection quite an extensive assortment of arrow heads which he had picked up in his travels about our mountains. Henry Graver, of East Mauch Chunk, one of his disciples, has a collection of several hundred Indian arrow heads which he has found along the ridge land between East Mauch Chunk and Glen Onoko. Quite a number of arrow heads have been discovered by the workmen while clearing the base ball field at the rear of the Hotel Wahnetah.

## AN INTERESTING OLD LETTER

Which Peter P. Loop Wrote in 1817—  
—Some Extensive Financiering of that  
Early Day.

Edward S. Loop was very much pleased the other day at being handed by Edward Welles a letter written by Mr. Loop's father, Peter P. Loop, to George M. Hollenback in 1817. The letter was written while Mr. Loop was yet a young man, and the chirography is beautifully neat. After telling Mr. Hollenback about the safe arrival of goods (at Athens, where Mr. Loop was clerking for Mr. Hollenback) by John Griffin's boat, he goes on to gossip very pleasantly on social topics. He had just attended a ball at Chemung with Lyman Covell and Lathrop Baldwin. He expressed himself as wearied with the dullness of Athens and put in his leisure studying French. Were it not for the hope of returning to Wilkes-Barre, he could not be content to stay at Tioga Point.

He was happy to hear the Bridge Company were doing so well and hoped they would finally triumph over their enemies.

"I have been of great service here to their paper. I have done away with many false reports which were in circulation and have given it a good name, and it passes well. Their tickets pass better than any others. I have been assured that it is in the power of your father and Mr. Tuttle to get from the Bridgeport or Derby Banks \$0x,xxx, paper, payable in New York at three per cent. (all of which I suppose you are acquainted with—if not, keep it still,) to put the new bank in operation. I think they ought not to sleep on such an opportunity of completely vanquishing the new school. A gentleman acquainted with the circumstances declared to me a few days since that they (the old school) ought not to stop at a loss of \$5,000 to put it into operation. Should anything be done, I rely on your and your father's promises of doing something in it for me. My respects to all who feel any interest in my good or evil fortune, and especially to Emily and Mrs. Cist."

It is not difficult to see in the light of this letter, where the younger Loop gets his taste for financiering. He has the same faculty for "getting in on the ground floor" that his father had.

The letter is full of scholarly sentences and quotations. Mr. Welles could not have disposed of the old manuscript more appropriately than by placing it in the hands of the son. The postage on it was 12½ cents.

Peter P. Loop was born in Elmira, N. Y., in 1798 and died at Belvidere, Ill., in 1854. His father, also named Peter, was one of the commissioners appointed by the Susquehanna

Company, September 25, 1786, any five of the commissioners constituting a court with power to determine whenever a form of interval government shall be established in that country. Peter P. Loop married Elizabeth Irene, daughter of Gen. William Ross, born 1790 and married 1820. Their children, all living, are D. J. M. Loop, Edward Sterling Loop and Rev. Dewitt Clinton Loop.

## ALAS FOR THE RARITY OF

Centenarians—Only a Few Instances That  
Can be Substantiated by Proof—Let us  
Hear From the Generally Old People.

Many people will be surprised to learn that most of the current stories relative to centenarians are myths. The appended letter ought to develop some information on the subject and the RECORD will be glad to hear of any centenarians whose advanced age can be proved: ERROR RECORD: A New York dally (the *Sun*, I think,) made a claim a few years since, that there had never been known in this country a single case of a person having reached and passed the age of one hundred years, capable of any proof that would be accepted in a court of justice. This sweeping declaration raised a story of indignation and remonstrance, which soon subsided when it was found that the whole country could produce only one case that could answer the conditions—that of an old Dutch family on the Hudson, whose Bible record proved conclusively that a female member of the family had lived to be a centenarian.

Instead of this being a common and almost daily occurrence it is the rarest of all earthly things. Indeed it may be classed almost as a miracle. I add to the first case mentioned a second, capable of still better evidence, as it is taken from public records.

From the Lyme, Conn., town record:  
"June 25, 1746. Born—Lydia, daut. of Ebenezer Mack, Jr., and wife Abigail."  
She was married at Lyme to John, son of Rev. Samuel Gustin, Jr., born Feb. 12, 1743-4. He was in the Revolutionary Army, and was at Burgoyne's surrender. Afterwards he removed with his wife to Marlow, N. H., where he died June 30, 1815.

From the Marlow, N. H., records:  
"July 20, 1847. Died—Lydia Mack, widow of John Gustin, aged 101 years and 25 days."  
At the time of Mrs. Gustin's death she had living 28 grandchildren, 96 great grandchildren and 27 great great grandchildren, 151 in all. She had outlived every one of her own children.

I should be glad to learn of another case accompanied with the kind of proof required by the *Sun*.  
GEORGE W. GUSTIN.

Miner's Mills, Pa.

**LUZERNE BOROUGH 50 YEARS AGO.****The Old Resident Returns and Discourses on Other Old Residents.**

Driving from Wyoming to Hartseph, now Luzerne, nearly three weeks since, I counted the dwelling houses on and near the back road from Abraham's Creek, that crosses, the road near the Pollock House, now rented by H. Ziegler, Jr., to Toby's Creek, which runs through Hartseph, a distance of about four miles, and was astonished to learn that there are two hundred and fifty-three dwelling houses, three school houses and five collieries, viz., the Fuller colliery, the Malthy colliery, the Swoyer colliery, the Harry E. colliery and the Waddell colliery. It seemed more like passing through a lengthy village than traveling on the back road along which there were only a few scattered houses fifty years ago. I think I can recall the names of the houses located on the back road in the olden times. First on leaving Wyoming there was the Samuel Raub house, next the Squire John Johnson house, the Katie Johnson house, the Polly Johnson house, the Charles Barney house, the Shep Goodwin house, the Reuben Daley house, the Erastus Hill house, the Fisher Gay house, the Eli Swetland house, the John Stanton house, the Elijah Shoemaker still-house, the Johnny Gore, Eliza Shafer, John Blain, Rev. George Peck, Daddy Barber, "Mammy" Garey house, the Johnny McCormic and the Josiah Squires houses. Of the number recently counted sixty-eight are located in Wyoming Borough, one hundred and sixty-one in Kingston Township, and twenty four in Luzerne Borough, or near the borough limits. Alighting near Waddell's shaft engine house, I visited the spot where the Johnny McCormic house once stood. The old cellar remains, and a butternut tree that grew from behind its walls also marks the spot. It was a wood-colored story and a half house, hardly that, and had a cellar kitchen and two rooms above. The frame of this old house was 18 feet by 24 feet. It was built ninety-six years ago by Stephen Hollister. John McCormic lived here fifty years ago, having moved into the house in 1830, and resided therein twenty years. Except his oldest son, Thomas, all his children were born here. In 1850 John McCormic purchased the "Reuben Holgate" house, then the property of William Hancock. Since the death of John McCormic and Elizabeth Laphy McCormic, the property was purchased by Judd Lutz, who rents it to tenants. Only two of the eight children are living: James Mather McCormic, now a resident of Charles Street, in Luzerne Borough; his sister, Ann, the widow of William Atherholt, a resident of Pringleville and born

June 1, 1832, one of the old residents who has not seen fifty yet; her son, William Jacob Atherholt, married and residing in Pringleville. While viewing the spot where the "Johnnie" house stood my old-time acquaintance, Hiram Johnson, passed, invited me to take a seat in his carriage, and took me to his home on the mountain to spend New Year's Day. Hiram Johnson was born in Plymouth Township April 30, 1816. He has lived on the mountain farm forty-seven years and says the soil is poorer now than it was when he bought the farm. He married Mary Ann Hughes in 1840. Mrs. Johnson was born August 9, 1814, in Hartseph. All of their six children are married. Louisa is Mrs. David Munson, of Willowvale, near Catawissa. George is a farmer in Jackson Township, having married Mary, daughter of George Atherholt. Elizabeth is Mrs. Joseph Woodruff, of Union Corner, Pa. Henry Clay Johnson, justice of the peace in Luzerne Borough, married Emily Lamareaux, of Jackson Township. James Kase Johnson resides in the borough, pleasantly located on Hughes Street, having married Maggie, oldest daughter of S. H. Pettebone, of Dorranceton. Margaret is Mrs. Charles Huff, of Dallas Township. After eating our turkey dinner our hostess seemed inclined to be very loquacious and gave us a brief history of a number of the living members of her father's family.

Her sister, Margaret Swetland Hughes, was born in Hartseph August 2, 1835, and is now Mrs. John Denniston. Their home is pleasantly located on Bennett Street, commanding a good view of more than half of Wyoming Valley. Mrs. Denniston has four children, one son and three daughters. Her house was first built for a private school building in 1867. A Sunday school was founded here in 1868 with T. H. B. Lewis as superintendent and named Glen Presbyterian Sunday School. Rev. Henry Hunton Welles, of Forty Fort, conducted prayer meetings and preached in this school room, and from the humble efforts of a little band of devoted worshippers, the present Presbyterian society of Luzerne Borough originated. Bennet Presbyterian Church was organized June 6, 1874, with a membership of thirteen, that is, by letter: James B. Hutchinson, Ella R. Hutchinson, Ann G. Hutchinson, James Foster, Christina Houser, Archibald Wallace, David Foster, Margaret Davis, Arthur Clarke, Agnes Wallace, A. W. Sloan, Mary Sloan, Mrs. S. Booth, and by profession, John Clarke and Ann McCulloch. The committee of Presbytery which organized the church was Rev. Thomas Hunt, Rev. H. H. Welles, Rev. W. P. Gibson and Elder James Vanan.

Rev. H. H. Welles presided over the meeting. The whole number of persons who have

been members from the first organization is one hundred and six. The present membership is eighty-seven. Value of church property five thousand dollars, and value of parsonage built since present pastorate began twenty-seven hundred dollars. The name of the present pastor is Rev. Robert H. Craig. The Sunday school numbers nearly three hundred. Charles Hughes, of Catawissa, brother of mine hostess, was born Oct. 28, 1831. In 1849 he married Esther, daughter of Joshua Pettebone. Six of their children are living, four sons and two daughters, all of whom are married, except Charles Hughes, Jr., of the firm Hughes Brothers, Luzerne. His brothers are Gordon S. Hughes and Hugh H. Hughes. Gordon S. Hughes married Catharine Harrison, of Huntington Township. Hugh H. Hughes married Maria Scott, of Plymouth Township. George Pettebone Hughes resides at Catawissa, Col. Co., Pa., and married Elizabeth Campbell, of Col. Co., Pa. Mary, the oldest daughter, is Mrs. Matthew Mackie, of Providence, Pa., and Isabel is Mrs. Edgar Rice Pettebone, of Dorranceton.

In 1874 Esther Pettebone Hughes died. In 1878, Jan. 1, Charles Hughes married Mrs. Elizabeth Millick.

Edward Hughes was born Feb. 5, 1831. He was a resident of Hartsesh fifty years ago, and is at present located two miles from Berwick, Pa. In 1860 he married Elizabeth Norris. Four children are living. Emily, eldest daughter, is Mrs. D. O. Coughlin, of Hughes Street, Luzerne Borough; Eva, youngest daughter, and two sons, Frank and Walter, are at home. James Hughes was born in Hanover Township Nov. 19, 1816. In April, 1848, he married Elizabeth Houghton, widow of George Houghton. Three of his children are living. Moriah R. is Mrs. Wilson J. Bishop and resides on Hughes street. George Houghton Hughes is a resident of Luzerne. Carrie A. Hughes lives with her parents on Hughes Street.

Elizabeth Houghton Hughes was born at North Burton, England, Feb. 7, 1816. Her four children, two sons and two daughters, are living. Her oldest son, William Houghton, is at home. Her oldest daughter, Josephine S., is Mrs. Alexander Smith, of Denver, Colorado. Cyrus Houghton is proprietor of the Luzerne House, in Luzerne Borough, having married Mrs. Jane Bonham Crandall. Sarah Jane, youngest daughter, is Mrs. J. W. Eastwood, of Rocky Ford, Otero County, Colorado.

While calling on acquaintances in Hartsesh a few days since I met Mrs. Catherine Wagner Bonham, widow of Lambert Bonham, who has lived in the old town fifty years. Mrs. Bonham was born in Plains Township, March 14, 1819, where her girlhood days were spent, married in Wilkes-

Barre, March 15, 1840, and moved to Luzerne the same year. At that time she says there were only a few houses here, a few families, all social, friendly neighbors. Some of the land in the borough now covered with houses was fifty years ago covered with chaparral. Her two children are living in Luzerne, Calvin Parsons Bonham and Mary Electa Bonham. Lambert Bonham died Jan. 17, 1886.

During my stay with old-time acquaintances I will occasionally forward a line from the ancient and historic town, Hartsesh, that might prove to be of some value or benefit to the readers of the Record.

A few days since a miner asked me how many persons were engaged in mining coal in Kingston Township in 1840 or fifty years ago. I told him only eleven, and two hundred and seventy-three were engaged in agriculture. I also learned by making inquiry that the East Boston Coal Mine was opened in 1896, and that this was the first breaker built near Hartsesh.

The Black Diamond shaft and breaker were constructed 1871 and 1872.

The Waddell mine was opened in 1875; the breaker was built in 1878, and commenced breaking coal Jan. 10, 1879.

The Willow Grove breaker, once in successful operation in this town, is now a thing of the past. This colliery was a diminutive affair compared with those operated by steam, as said breaker was operated by horse-power. The mine was opened in 1879 by Messrs. Lloyd and Williams, the operators.

Bear with me while I relate one anecdote to prove that a change has taken place in Luzerne Borough since it was called Hartsesh, fifty years ago. One day last week the curiosity of a number of Luzerne's citizens was aroused by the unlooked-for arrival of what to them appeared to be something resembling a man who was marching around town with head erect and pompous air. His clothes were of fine material and fashionable cut. He wore fashionable jewelry. A silk hat covered his limited supply of brains. A pair of expensive kid gloves protected his dainty white hands. He sported a gold headed cane and strutted to and fro gazing about him with an air of lofty disdain as of one who felt himself superior to all upon whom his glances fell. An old lady passing noticed his meerschaum and expressed her disgust by exclaiming, "Two mere shams." He was presently met by a country swain from away back, with modest, diffident air, who for a while stood watching curiously from the opposite side of the street. Then crossing over, he stood before him, hat in hand, and bowing low. "Sir," he said respectfully, "will you be so kind as to tell me if you are anybody in particular?"

I'm from the country and shouldn't like to meet any great man and not know it."

"I, sir?" cried the anomaly, drawing himself up to his full height, and swelling with importance, "I? I am the greatest man in America; the greatest man of the age; I am Mr. Dude, sir, the best judge of delicious ices and confectionery. I tip my hat and make my politest bow to the ladies." "Thank you, sir," returned the swain, with another low bow. "I shall always be proud and happy to have met so great a man." Fifty years ago the inhabitants of Hartseph had no such examples of gallantry. The citizens of Luzerne should be grateful for the privilege of living in the present age of reform.

**How Weather History Repeats Itself.**

An exchange says, to show how idle is all this talk about mild winters being something new under the sun and due to changing seasons, the reader is invited to peruse the following extract from the diary of Sir Samuel Pepys:

January 21, 1661, he writes: "It is strange what weather we have had all this winter; no cold at all, but the ways are dusty and the flies fly up and down and the rose bushes are full of leaves, such a time of the year as was never known in this world before here." On January 15th, of the following year, the state of the weather appears to have been of such unusual mildness, that Parliament ordered a fast day to pray for more seasonable weather. He writes on that day the following: "Mr. Berkenshaw asked me whether we had not committed a fault in eating to-day; telling me that it is a fast day ordered by the Parliament to pray for more seasonable weather, it having been hitherto summer weather, that it is, both as to warmth and ever other thing, just as if it were the middle of May or June, which do threaten a plague (as all men think) to follow, so it was almost last winter, and the whole year after has been a very sickly time to this day."

**Logs Rafted on the Lehigh.**

[White Haven Journal.]

The following is the summary of logs rafted during 1889:

	FEET.
A. Lewis & Co.....	1,420,692
C. L. & A. S. Keck.....	1,926,907
Toby & Lehigh Lumber Co.....	4,227,258

Total.....7,575,182

For comparison we republish the summary for 1888:

	FEET
A. Lewis & Co.....	2,944,947
A. F. Peters & Son.....	1,372,144
C. L. & A. S. Keck.....	3,443,733
Toby & Lehigh Lumber Co.....	5,358,051

Total.....13,121,875

**The Republican Candidates.**

THE CANDIDATE FOR JUDGE.

Of the Hon. Charles Edmund Rice as a man and as a judge little need be said. The people know him well enough. His reputation as a jurist has already been made and of its character it is enough to say that each succeeding year since his elevation upon the bench seems but to heighten its sheen. The universal opinion of contemporary jurists as well as the never-failing criterion of his own official acts place him in the foremost rank of the judges of this commonwealth. Judge Rice was born September 15, 1846, at Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and is descended from an old Connecticut family, prominent in the early history of the new republic. His father, Thomas Arnold Rice, took an active part in the industrial development and the educational institutions of Fairfield. Judge Rice was prepared for college at Fairfield Academy, of which his father was one of the trustees. He subsequently entered and graduated from Hamilton College, in New York, in 1867, and afterwards taught school at Bloomsburg, at the same time reading law with John G. Freeze, of that place. He left this office and entered Albany Law School, and after graduating from that school was admitted to practice at the bar of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. He soon after came to this city, entered the law office of Lyman Hakes, and was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County, Feb. 21, 1870. In 1876 he was elected district attorney of this county by a majority of 2,444, when the same year the county gave the Democratic candidate for President a majority of 4,000. His qualifications and talent here began most conspicuously to assert themselves, and the citizens of Luzerne County saw that they could not afford to allow him to appear before them as a practitioner any longer. His election followed and ever since the people have found in him a representative whose administration of the law has been marked by a large legal acumen and unswerving impartiality. A comparatively young judge in one of the largest counties of the State, he has shown himself well fitted to wear the ermine and preside in the people's temple of justice, the arbiter of those disagreements between man and man that are incident to this age of progress. Personally, Judge Rice is of an unassuming disposition, a close student and a genial associate.

**THE NOMINEE FOR SHERIFF.**

Robert Patterson Robinson, who is in the race for sheriff, was born in Fairmount Township October 17, 1849. He is a son of William P. Robinson, who came from Delaware and cleared a farm in the woods. Young Robinson attended the common schools of that township and during intervals assisting his

father on the farm. His father died in 1888 and his mother some years before. Mr. Robinson taught school in various parts of the county for several years. When, in 1882, one of the county auditors resigned and accepted a position in the pension office at Washington, the court appointed Mr. Robinson to fill the vacancy, and he served until the end of the term. When the next board of county commissioners was elected he was appointed chief clerk, and served with such satisfaction to the commissioners and credit to himself that when the succeeding Democratic board was elected he was retained and is still in that position. His retention is a compliment which speaks for itself, for the place is one which requires a level head and an understanding of the business of the county. Captain Robinson, of Fairmount, is a brother, as was G. Stewart Robinson, who was killed by deserters during the late war.

#### THE NOMINEE FOR RECORDER.

The person who will oppose the Democratic candidate for recorder is Phillip J. Boyle, who was born in Tamaqua, Schuylkill County, March 19, 1856. His father was a miner forty-eight years ago and died about ten years ago. His mother is still living. The candidate was educated in the common schools of Tamaqua and Hazleton and at Millersville Academy. From school he went into his father's dry goods store at Hazleton, and soon after (in 1875) became bookkeeper and manager of the Central Hotel, of Hazleton. In 1877 he was elected assessor of Hazleton Borough for one year. The year following he was elected auditor of the borough for three years, the only Republican member of the board. In 1883 he was elected poor director for the Middle Coal Field Poor District, embracing a portion of Luzerne and all of Carbon County. The district was Democratic by 1,000 votes, but his majority was 1,506. He was elected for three years. Since the expiration of his term he has confined his attention to his livery and undertaking business in Hazleton, and now is ready to serve the people as recorder.

#### THE NOMINEE FOR CORONER.

Dr. Dan Evans, the candidate for coroner, was born in Glamorganshire, South Wales, June 6, 1846. He came to Nanticoke in 1868 and has been practicing medicine for twenty years. During the small pox epidemic last winter he was employed by the borough council as the borough physician. He alone treated sixty-four cases and lost but eight. He diagnosed the first case properly. He is well qualified for the office which the people

shall between now and the day of election decide whether he shall fill.

#### THE NOMINEE FOR SURVEYOR.

Ambrose D. Rees was nominated as the Republican candidate for county surveyor. Ever since he was a little boy he has lived in this county. He worked in the mines until he was twenty-one years of age, when he determined to satisfy his ambition to become a civil engineer. He was prepared for college at Wyoming Seminary, and in 1876 entered Lafayette College, graduating in the class of 1881 as civil engineer. He then took charge of the construction of ten miles of the double track of the D. L. & W. R. R. between Waverly and Elmira. Afterwards he was engineer on the Lehigh Valley R. R. but soon resigned, and in connection with a partner opened a general store at Parsons, where he now resides. He is a son of William W. Rees, who has been a superintendent of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co. for twenty years. Mr. Rees has always been a staunch Republican and a worker for his party.

#### Interesting Item of History.

EDITOR RECORD: In an old number of the *Providence Gazette and Country Journal*, Dec. 9, 1769, printed at Providence, R. I., and now in the possession of W. H. Sturdevant, appears the following item of news from Wyoming Valley one hundred and twenty years ago. If correct, it gives the only detailed account of the capture of Col. Jno. Durkee, differing somewhat from Pearce's account. Miner's History states, p. 113, that Captain Ogden of the Pennsylvania forces "with fifty armed men, by a vigorous and well timed movement, seized Captain Durkee, commander of the Yankees." Pearce's Annals, p. 66, says that Ogden "with a party of forty or fifty men suddenly attacked the houses of some of the settlers and took a few prisoners, among whom was Major John Durkee." The rest of the item also differs somewhat from the historians in their account.

H. E. H.

"By a Gentleman from Windham we learn that several of the New England Adventurers have lately returned from the Susquehanna. Major Durgee, their leader, in going from the Blockhouse to view some Mills that were erecting, was waylaid and seized by a Number of armed Men from Pennsylvania, who conducted him to Easton. They afterwards surrounded the Blockhouse and demanded a Conference with some of the principal Settlers, who accordingly went without the Gate for that Purpose. The Pennsylvanians availing themselves of this Opportunity marched into the Blockhouse, when it was agreed that an equal Number of each Party would remain there till Spring, or until the controverted Right of the Lands shall be determined."

## THE LATE DR. INGHAM.

## Some of the Details of His Interesting and Eventful Life.

The funeral of the late Dr. Ingham occurred from his late residence Tuesday afternoon, Rev. H. L. Jones and Rev. H. E. Hayden officiating. A large number of friends were in attendance. The pall bearers were Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, W. W. Loomis, Wm. P. Miner, W. R. Maffet, F. V. Rockafellow and A. R. Brundage. The carriers were A. H. Dickson, H. H. Harvey, W. M. Miller, Sheldon Reynolds, C. E. Butler, C. P. Hunt. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

Dr. Charles Farmer Ingham was born of English parents in the city of Dublin in 1810, consequently he was in the eightieth year of his age. He came to this country in early childhood with his parents, who located in Philadelphia. When 12 or 13 years of age his father removed to Wyoming Valley and located on the west side of the river. Young Ingham joined his uncle, Borbridge, as a clerk in the latter's store in Kingston. He remained there several years when he entered upon the study of medicine with Dr. Thomas W. Miner. Richard Sharpe, who came here in 1832, says Dr. Ingham was in Dr. Miner's office at that time. For a time (1830) he taught school in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, which stood in the Public Square. Subsequently he attended lectures at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, though during all this time his attention had largely been given to civil engineering, for which he proved eminently adapted by nature. He never engaged in medical practice, but applied himself to engineering, in which he subsequently achieved a widespread reputation.

He early distinguished himself by the part he took as assistant engineer in locating and constructing the North Branch Canal, running south from Wilkes-Barre to Northumberland and north to the New York State line. The project was completed in the summer of 1834. He surveyed the back track of the famous switchback of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., at Mauch Chunk. His services were sought by the Jersey Central in the construction of the branch running from Wilkes-Barre to Nanticoke and he was afterwards employed by the Pennsylvania R. R. Co. as engineer of their Susquehanna Coal Co. mines at Nanticoke. The railroad bridge crossing the Susquehanna from Wilkes-Barre to Plymouth, now the D. & H. bridge, was en-

gineered by him. Shortly before the war he started the system of works for the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and carried it to satisfactory completion.

In earlier years he had been superintendent and general manager for an oil works and powder mill at Spottswood, N. J., but owing to explosions and other misfortunes the venture was disastrous. It was at Spottswood that he married Miss Lucy Vernett, a Connecticut lady of French extraction, who survives him. This was in 1839. The general stagnation of business following close upon the heels of his misfortune prompted him to try his fortune in the new Southwest, Texas then looming into prominence as the Lone Star Republic. He remained some three years, experiencing all the excitement and vicissitudes incident to those early days on the Rio Grande.

Returning about 1843 he was, upon the recommendation of his friend, Col. Alexander H. Bowman, U. S. Engineers, called upon by the government to proceed to Charleston, S. C., where he remained seven years assisting Col. Bowman in the erection of Fort Sumter. When this work was completed he returned to Wilkes-Barre and entered the employ of the Mordecai brothers, of Baltimore, as engineer of their mines at Wilkes-Barre, at which time the coal trade was coming rapidly into prominence.

Dr. Ingham was for many years a member of the old borough council, and was one of the founders of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. He has served as president, and has always held positions on important committees. He was invaluable in that organization, by reason of his intimate knowledge of geology, conchology and other scientific branches. Dr. Ingham was an expert on all matters connected with the coal measures. For several years he made annual trips to Stellerton, Nova Scotia, where he had been engaged as consulting engineer of the Acadia Coal Co. He was the trusted expert of the Wilkes-Barre syndicate developing the Wheel of Fortune mine in Colorado. A committee comprising Dr. Ingham, Harrison Wright, W. P. Ryman and J. K. Bogert went out to inspect the property. Of these only one is living—Mr. Ryman. Dr. Ingham had made numerous trips to the West, being taken out once by a syndicate of English capitalists who built the Rio Grande R. R., to report as an expert upon some of the work, and once to examine the coal deposits in the Gunnison region. During the Leadville excitement Dr. Ingham was engaged in extensive investigations for Wilkes-Barre investors.

In 1873-5 he laid out the summer resort, Seagirt, Monmouth County, N. J.

When the sewer system was introduced into Wilkes-Barre the work of engineering was naturally entrusted to Dr. Ingham, and he

prosecuted it vigorously for two years, after which it was turned over to his son and other younger men.

Dr. Ingham was a man who sought the quiet walks of life, and whose recreation lay in three directions—his home, his books and his study of nature. He was a man of excellent education, and as was said of him by Rev. Mr. Jones in the funeral service, his life was characterized by industry, integrity and purity. His disposition was gentle, and he attracted by his rare but unobtrusive accomplishments. Though not a communicant he was an attendant at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The end came painlessly. His illness was of only two days' duration and was marked by only one painful feature—his inability to communicate with his family. He motioned for pencil and paper, but the paralysis had crippled his powers and his writing was unintelligible except a single sentence—"I want to go home." He sank peacefully to his final rest on Saturday morning, Jan. 18.

Besides his widow, three children survive him, William V., Mary and Lucy.

#### The Last of Her Family.

Mrs. Hettie Nye, who has been residing with her cousin, Mrs. Bell, at 62 South River Street, for the past few months, died a few minutes after nine Thursday, Jan. 23, aged 72. Mrs. Nye lived with the family of Oliver Hillard in Charleston, S. C., for a number of years of her early life. Her then prospective husband, Mr. Nye, was at that time a clerk in Mr. Hillard's employ, but he subsequently entered business for himself in Charleston, and later in New Orleans, having a branch house in Cincinnati. He was for many years very wealthy, but before he died much of his property was swept away by business reverses. He spent his summers in Falmouth, Mass., and he died there last May. Soon afterward Mrs. Nye removed to Wilkes-Barre and made her home with Mrs. Bell. During the early winter she had formulated plans for spending a part of the cold season in Jacksonville, but some weeks ago she sustained a fracture of the thigh from a fall, and from that time she never rose from her bed. Notwithstanding her advanced years she bore the shock well and under the best medical skill and most excellent care she seemed to improve. However, about a fortnight ago she suffered a paralytic stroke and from that time her vital powers gradually failed. The end came very peacefully. Deceased was a communicant of the Congregational Church. She was possessed of a most lovable disposition and she was much beloved by those who knew her. She had her share of this world's troubles, but she always maintained

a courageous spirit and never gave up to repining. This was one of her most charming characteristics, and to it was added gentleness and kind consideration toward others. She was a native of Charleston and was 72 years old. She is not survived by any near relatives.

The funeral of Mrs. Henrietta Ney was held from the residence of Mrs. M. H. Bell on Saturday afternoon. The remains, which reposed in a black broadcloth casket, looked peaceful and almost as natural as sleep. There was a tasteful arrangement of flowers and smilax around the bier. Rev. H. L. Jones conducted the services. A quartet consisting of Mrs. Jones, Miss Puckey and Messrs. Puckey sung touchingly "Abide With Me" and "Jesus, Lover of My Soul." The pall bearers were Isaac P. Hand, R. B. Brundage, W. S. McLean, H. H. Harvey, T. F. Ryman and R. J. Flick. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### On the Death of J. R. Kennedy.

Frank Humphreys hands the Record the following tribute to his brother musician, the late Mr. Kennedy:

Another gentle heart has ceased  
From earthly strife. The smile that eased

The tension of that heart,  
The hand that gave expressive tone  
Of thoughts within, the eyes that shone.

Have ceased to bear their part  
In this terrestrial clime; but far  
The freed-om'd soul shines from its star.

I saw him but a few short days  
Before he died.—How kind his ways!

How passing kind his care  
That brothers in his chosen art  
Of music should not lack a part

Of aught he had to share!  
Since this his view of this world's plan,—  
The servant may be all the man.

'Twere meet that he should reach the sky  
(Though than the seventh heaven more high)—  
The sky of Israel.

Though Poe, our king of poesy,  
Maintains that, of the hosts on high.

"None sings so wildly well  
As the angel Israel," yet now  
The victor's crown may leave his brow.

Though he "whose heart strings are a lute"  
May make the "giddy stars" be mute

With his "trembling living wire."  
Yet he the man we mourn to-day  
Full oft his earthly viol did play

With "Israel's fire:"—  
The tremblings that his heart strings knew,  
From forth his speaking viol he drew.

The wrongs of bad men to his race  
Had wrought upon his gentle face

That melancholy stain,  
Which ever marks the beautiful  
(So Poe declares), and he were dull

Who could not note his pain.  
Peace to his ashes! May his soul  
Have "rounded to the perfect whole!"



**Lacked Two Years of 90.**

The death is reported at Philadelphia, of Stephen Wilson, an early resident of Wyoming Valley and uncle of Mrs. E. H. Chase and Thomas Taylor, of Wilkes-Barre. He was 88 years of age. He was a son of Elnathan Wilson, a Revolutionary soldier, who came from New London, Conn., to Wyoming Valley at an early day. Elnathan married Betsey Baker, of Forty Fort, in 1798, Rev. Anning Owen performing the ceremony. The family lived on the west side of the Susquehanna. In 1811 Elnathan leased the old ferry at the foot of Northampton Street, Wilkes-Barre, which he operated profitably for a year or two, and then opened a store in Kingston and afterwards kept hotel there. The children were Stephen, Polly, Esther, Ann, William, George and Lyman. Their hospitable home was a favorite resort of the itinerant Methodist preachers. Elnathan was born in 1763 and died in 1857. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1782 and died in 1840.

Elnathan's sister, Elizabeth, was employed by Gen. Washington as a spy to convey intelligence to a Revolutionary officer (Gen. Thomas) who was held on parole as a prisoner by the British, then in possession of New York City. The girl spy afterwards lived in Luzerne County. The Record has an interesting account of her daring experience and will print it at an early day.

The Record is in possession of some interesting reminiscences left by Mr. Wilson, relative to Wilkes-Barre in the early part of the century and it hopes to print them in later issues.

**Will of David Gruver.**

David Gruver, late of this city, made his will Nov. 20, 1890. It was admitted to probate in the office of Register McGreevy on Saturday. After providing for the payment of all just debts and funeral expenses, he bequeaths his entire estate to his wife, Julia, to be held by her during her natural life. After her death it is the request of decedent that a house and lot on Hillside Street, now occupied by his son, Sterling E. Gruver, shall become the property of said son. The remainder of the estate shall go in equal shares to the following children: Mary A., wife of G. W. Garrison; Sarah E., wife of Valentine Heiss; Lydia J., wife of William Shopland; George W.; Thomas J., of Golden, Colorado, and Elwood. For the reason that George W. already holds part of the real estate he is to receive \$500 less than the others. The late Mrs. Henry C. Hirner, a daughter, was given a lot of land as her share. To her granddaughter, Anna R. Merrill, is given \$5. The widow and son, George W., are appointed to execute the provisions of the will. The witnesses are S. J. Strause, Esq., and Michael Murphy.

**One Whom Wilkes-Barreans Knew.**

Mrs. F. J. Leavenworth was recently called on to sustain the loss of her brother, William Woodward, of Philadelphia. It is within less than a year that two others of the brothers and sisters have died—Mrs. Harriet Arnett, of Philadelphia, and a brother in St. Louis. Mrs. Leavenworth and her brother Enos alone remain. Mr. Woodward was past 70 years of age. He was acquainted in Wilkes-Barre and was well known to all patrons of Glen Summit, he having spent the last two or three summers there with his nieces, the Misses Hottie and Margaret Arnett. Mr. Woodward had been in failing health for a long time, and had been confined to his bed ever since he left the mountain. Mr. Woodward was unmarried, and for many years made his home with his sister, Mrs. Arnett, on Kittenhouse Square. He was formerly engaged in the grocery trade in Philadelphia, but retired many years ago. He was a member of the Reformed Episcopal Church. Mr. Woodward was a gentleman whose polished manners and breadth of information made him a valued accession to any social circle, and a host of friends will grieve to hear of his demise. But the ones who will miss him most are those who knew him best—the members of that family circle which his nobility of character and his kindness of heart so conspicuously adorned. He died at the Hotel Aldine, in Philadelphia, on Jan. 6.

**Almost Ninety Years of Age.**

At East Mauch Chunk, on Tuesday night, about 11 o'clock, Mrs. Sarah Sharpe died at the residence of her daughter, Miss Fanny Sharpe. She was the widow of Richard Sharpe, whom many of the older residents of this city will remember as having died here September 16, 1836. Mrs. Sharpe was born in England January 30, 1800, and was consequently within a few days of being 90 years of age. Of six children two survive, Miss Fanny Sharpe and Mrs. George Ruddle, of East Mauch Chunk. Richard Sharpe, of West River Street, this city, is a step-son, his mother having died January 10, 1823, sixty-eight years ago. The funeral services will be held in Mauch Chunk January 17, and the remains will be brought to this city on the 12:30 Lehigh Valley train. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

**Death of a Nonagenarian.**

Died, at the residence of her son, John Scoville, in Beaumont, Wyoming County, on January 21, 1890, Mrs. Fanny Scoville, widow of the late Orr Scoville, aged 93 years, 5 months and 7 days. Her father was William Harris, formerly of Kingston Township.

**The Last of an Illustrious Family.**

[Shickshinny Echo, Dec. 20, 1889.]

Died, at Register, Pa., on the 12th of December, Miss Agendecoa E. Westover, after a short illness from dropsy. Deceased was the last survivor of the immediate family of the late Jonathan Westover, Esq., who for nearly a quarter of a century was the conservator, as well as justice of the peace of Huntington Township, a mark of respect and recognition of true worth that attaches to but one other citizen of the township, whose name is familiar and still survives. One son, David, and two daughters, H. A. and the deceased, survived their illustrious father. The daughters remained upon the homestead, where they lived in great harmony, enjoying the esteem of the entire community, until a few years since they were separated by the death of the former. Cultivated and refined, superior in intellect, affable in manners, generous in disposition, needy ones never plead in vain nor were any turned empty away. Their presence was a benediction wherever they moved. The deceased was perhaps the greatest conversationalist of her age in this community—a close reader of history and current events until failing eyesight prevented her. Mrs. Abraham Huff and Mr. P. S. Westover, niece and nephew, were her comfort and stay during her declining years.

The funeral services were held on Sun ay, in the new M. E. Church (for which she gave the grounds) and (to which she was the first to be carried) attended by a vast concourse of sorrowing friends and neighbors. Interment at the Dodson Cemetery.

**Death of an Octogenarian.**

Many old people are succumbing to ailments induced and made more severe by this wretched weather. On January 15, Andrew Bierbach, of Bowman Street, died at the age of 86 years. For many years he was employed in the Ashley shops, but relinquished his occupation three or four years ago. His wife and four children, two sons and two daughters, survive him. The cause of death was pneumonia and old age.

Mrs. Shepard Goodwin, wife of the late Shepard Goodwin, died at her home on Main Street, Kingson, Thursday, January 10, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis, with which she was prostrated about two weeks ago. Her death had been expected for some days, as she was quite an old lady and quite feeble, never having fully recovered from a former paralytic stroke, which she suffered about one year ago. Mrs. Goodwin was born in Wyoming, Luzerne Co., in October, 1810, and was 79 years old at the time of her death. She married Shepard Goodwin when about 20 years old, and survived her hus-

band only about one year. She leaves one child, a daughter, Mrs. Abram Cool, of Trinidad, Colorado.

**A Monument to Tom Quick.**

The RECORD has been shown a large poster issued from the *Dispatch* office, Milford, Pike Co., which reads as follows: "Tom Quick, or the era of frontier settlement. The monument to Tom Quick and his father will be unveiled with appropriate ceremonies at Milford, Pike Co., Pa., on the afternoon of Wednesday, Aug. 28, 1889. The centennial liberty pole and national flag will be raised on Centre Square, where Gifford Pinchot, Esq., will deliver an address, Hon. W. H. Armstrong will read Drake's noted poem, and Mrs. George St. John will sing 'The Star Spangled Banner.' Col. J. Nye Post G. A. R. and the Rudolph Band will lead the procession to the monument, where the exercises will be opened by Rev. Dr. Mills, of Port Jarvis, president of the Mintsink Valley Historical Society, and addresses will be delivered by Judge Allerton and Amos Van Ethen, Esq., Rev. Joseph Millet, J. H. Van Ethen, Esq., Hon. D. Van Auker, Rev. A. S. Gardner, and a letter will be read from Hon. William Bross, of Chicago, who gives the monument."

Hon. Wm. Bross, above mentioned, is ex-Lieut. Governor of Illinois, and now president of the *Chicago Tribune* Company. Mr. Bross, as a boy, served his first apprenticeship in a printing office at Milford under our former townsman, Hon. Benjamin Alden Bidlack, who died at his post of duty as U. S. Minister at Bogota, many years ago. He lived in the house on North Main Street, in this city, now the property of G. B. Nicholson's heirs. Governor Bross is a descendant from the Quicks, whose monument is to be unveiled on the 28th. The governor has always maintained a deep interest in the early history of this northeastern portion of Pennsylvania, and was a prominent visitor at Wyoming's 100th year memorial services, July 3, 1878.

**Some War Reminiscences.**

The *Pittston Gazette* has begun the publication of a series of reminiscences of the late war, chronicling the valiant services of the private soldiers. It invites local veterans to furnish contributions. The first instalment is from the versatile pen of Squire W. W. Prichard, whose Democratic musings from Hunlock have from time to time entertained the readers of the RECORD. Mr. Prichard is certainly a literary genius, and his recollections would have been eminently worth place in the *Century* series of war articles.

**The Earliest Wyoming Doctor.**

[Daily Record, Jan. 14.]

The first to practice medicine in old Wyoming, so far as we know, was Dr. Joseph Sprague, who came with his family from Connecticut in 1770 or 1771, at the time of the first permanent settlement. He lost a son in the battle of Wyoming. A great deal of light is thrown upon the values of those early days, as well as upon the modes of living, by the account books of Elisha Blackman, a prominent farmer of Wilkes-Barre. These are in the possession of his great-grandson, Henry Blackman Plumb, Esq., author of the "History of Hanover Township," who has from time to time kindly furnished the Record with transcripts of interesting portions. Here is an account with old Dr. Sprague, the amounts being carried out in Connecticut currency, 6 shillings being equivalent to a Spanish silver dollar. After 1786 and the establishment of the Pennsylvania claim to the soil, the Connecticut values gave way to Pennsylvania values—7 shillings and 6 pence making a dollar. The reckonings of accounts in pounds, shillings and pence continued long after 1800.

WILKES-BARRE, June 1, 1772.

Doctor Joseph Sprague,

To Elisha Blackman, Senior, Dr.

	£	s.	d.
To Cash, Lawful money.....	0	8	8
" Work with two men and two horses, plowing an acre of land.....	0	6	0
" Plowing two acres between corn.....	0	3	0
" One days work.....	0	3	0
" Plowing two acres of corn.....	0	3	0
1773 To one quart bottle.....	0	1	6
To Cash, one dollar.....	0	6	0
To One acre of stalks.....	0	4	0
To 1 Bushel and half peck of corn	0	3	7
To ferry to fetch one bushel of corn.....	0	0	8
To A turn with Mr. Porter.....	0	2	6
1774, July—To the three boys a day (Elisha, Ichabod, Eleazer).....	0	3	0
To Eleazer, half a day.....	0	0	6
To Ichabod, one day.....	0	1	0
To 20 pumpkins.....	0	1	8
To the three boys one day Stripping tobacco.....	0	3	0
To one boy a day.....	0	1	0
To one pig.....	0	2	0
1775, January 10—To $\frac{1}{2}$ a bushel of potatoes.....	0	1	0
To 1 bushel of potatoes.....	0	2	0
To 10 bushels of corn.....	0	10	0
1775, June ye 28—Settled with Mr Joseph Sprague and found due to him.....	0	2	0
[No date]—To payment for doctoring.....	1	1	9
To 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of corn for Douglas Davison.....	0	7	6
To 3 bushels of corn.....	0	9	0
To 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of corn.....	0	4	6
To 1 bushel of corn.....	0	3	6
To 4 bushels of corn.....	0	14	0

**Dr. Sprague's Wife a Doctor Too.**

[Daily Record, Jan. 15.]

EDITOR RECORD: Your item of yesterday entitled "The Earliest Wyoming Doctor," giving the name of Dr. Joseph Sprague as being the first medical practitioner here in the valley is probably correct. Permit me, however, to supplement this fact by stating that Dr. Sprague's wife, Mrs. Eunice Sprague, was in all probability the first female doctor to practice the profession of medicine in these parts. I do not myself remember her, but often when I was a small boy, heard the old people speak of "Granny Sprague" as a successful practitioner of midwifery and of the healing art among children. Mrs. Dr. Sprague's residence and office, which I well remember, was a one-story log house on the corner of Main and Union Streets, then known as Granny Sprague's corner, where the Keeler block now stands. The old log house was demolished long years ago, but the cellar was plainly to be seen up to the time of erecting the present block of brick buildings. Mrs. Sprague, if I am not mistaken, was the mother of "Aunt Young," who lived in a small one-story frame house on Canal Street, still standing, a short distance below Union Street, who used to tell us boys how she often listened to the cry of wild oats and wolves in the swamp in front of her place, about where the line of several railroads pass up the valley. I remember that in going to Mrs. Young's place, out Union near the Van Zeek house, we had to pass a water course about where Fell Street joins the former, which at times, after heavy rains would be quite a formidable stream for children to ford. It was here, as I have heard said, that old Zimri, the town fiddler, was drowned on a dark night or towards morning as he was on his way home, perhaps slightly boozy, after having delighted the boys and girls during the first part of the night with the exciting dancing music of "money musk" and "the devil's dream," drawn from his miraculous violin. w. j.

[The Wilkes-Barre Advertiser, of April 15, 1814, notes that Mrs. Eunice Sprague died on the 12th, aged 82 years, but beyond the mere statement that she was one of the first settlers of this place, gives no particulars as to her interesting career. Her maiden name was Eunice Chapman, and she was a native of Colchester, Conn. Dr. Hollister thus describes her in his history: "She was a worthy old lady, prompt, cheerful and successful, and at this time (1785) the sole accoucheur in all the wide domain now embraced by Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties. Although of great age, her obstetrical practice as late as 1810 surpassed that of any physician in this portion of

Pennsylvania. For attending a confinement case, no matter how distant the journey, how long or fatiguing the detention, this sturdy and faithful woman invariably charged one dollar for services rendered, although a larger fee was never refused if any one was able or rash enough to offer it."

By an earlier marriage at Sharon, N. Y., Mrs. Sprague was the mother of Phoebe Poyner Young. The latter was one of the fugitives from the massacre of Wyoming, and was one of a party of seven women and children who escaped down the river to Harrisburg in a canoe. Mrs. Young died in 1839 at the age of 89 years. Her recollections were largely used by the earlier historians of Wyoming Valley.—EDITOR.]

#### Notable Genealogy.

EDITOR RECORD: A descendant born and raised in Wilkes-Barre of the pilgrim, John Alden, attended the unveiling, last June, in Mystic, Conn., of the monument commemorative of the Pequod war of 1637. At the centennial exhibition of 1876 in Philadelphia an elaborate set of jewelry was shown, the special feature of which was the setting in gold of pieces of Plymouth Rock. Upon the gold were engraved the family names in their genealogical order. The visit and what was done have been described to me in a personal letter, as follows:

"So the spirit seized me to go back to the Rock, to 1620, and witness the dedication of the forefathers' monument—a grand, noble shaft, one worthy of them. But the Pilgrims need no monument to perpetuate their virtues—their names will live till the Rock crumbles to dust. I took my historical and genealogical jewelry, bearing the names of John, Jonathan, Andrew and Prince Alden, Thomas and James Fitch, and John Mason, John Jameson, Lazarus Stewart, John Boyd, John Bull and Samuel Headley, and laid it as a tribute to the memory of my Pilgrim ancestors upon the Bible of John Alden at Pilgrim Hall. I honored each name inscribed on its broad gold band—Alden, Fitch, Mason, Jameson, Stewart, Boyd, Bull and Headley,—making good my stepping stones, 1637, 1755, 1776, 1812, 1876, 1887 and 1889." As the names Jameson, Stewart, Boyd and Bull belong to Pennsylvanians, and at least the two first named to Wyoming Valley. I consider it quite within the bounds of propriety that your paper should contain mention, by way of record more than as a matter of news, of this very commendable act, properly connecting and perpetuating a family's remarkable and deservedly notable historical and genealogical record.

C. B. S.

#### RED MEN, OLD AND NEW.

##### A Tribe Named for a Wyoming Pioneer Who Spent Six Years in Captivity and Was Adopted by the Onondagoes.

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 20, a new tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men was instituted in Williams Hall, Plainsville, by T. K. Donnelly, Great Chief of Records of Pennsylvania. The new tribe was named Coconeunquo, 180, by C. M. Williams, a charter member of the tribe. What makes the institution of this tribe the more interesting is the fact that within 70 rods of the wigwam of the new tribe is the spot where Samuel Cary was captured and taken prisoner by the Indians on the day of the massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778. He was taken the next day after his capture before a dying Indian who had been mortally wounded in the massacre, who gave his consent that the prisoner, who was then 20 years old, be adopted into the tribe (Onondagoes). The name of the dying Indian was Coconeunquo, which name young Cary bore during his six years of captivity among the tribe.

Another feature of the instituting of this modern tribe is that among the charter members are two of Samuel Cary's grandsons—Henry J. Cary and C. M. Williams, the latter naming the new tribe after the Indian cognomen given his grandfather during captivity.

Samuel Cary, the Wyoming massacre captive, was a son of Joseph Cary, and was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., Aug. 12, 1758, and was married to Mrs. Rosanna Bennett, nee Cary, in 1786, and died April 23, 1843, in Plainsville. He was buried in the old grave yard. Two months ago the remains were transferred by his grandson, C. M. Williams, to the Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Antiquarians in Town.

Col. John F. Meginness and J. H. McMinn, of Williamsport, were in town Dec. 27. They spent a pleasant afternoon in inspecting the cabinet of the Historical Society. Mr. McMinn, who is a collector of Indian pottery, states that the specimens possessed by the Historical Society—several of them entire—are so far as he knows the finest in the United States. In the evening they visited the residence of George Slocum Bennett to see the life size portrait of Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming, concerning whom Mr. Meginness contemplates writing a book.

**The Naming of Boroughs.**  
(Scranton Republican.)

Personal considerations and undue haste often result in much inappropriateness in the naming of boroughs which are so fast multiplying in the valley. For instance Edwardsville, whose name is all right for a borough, is altogether out of place as a postoffice name, as there is another of the same name in the State, and the "ville" had to be changed to "dale" to rectify so far as possible the error when it came to making it a postoffice location. Luzerne Borough, which for some unaccountable reason was so named, is not distinctive enough for a specific portion of the county of the same name, and residents are discussing the advisability of changing it. The Record has suggested "Hartsuff," the old time designation of the place, as more suitable, and the suggestion is worthy of consideration. Dorranceton Borough, named in honor of its old residents of that name, does well, but is not a good one for a postoffice name as there is a Dorrance office in Luzerne County, and the destination of mail matter would be apt to get mixed. Farther up the region and in the Lackawanna Valley are instances of these misapplied titles. Taylorville, not yet a borough, but whose postoffice is Minooka, instead of appropriating Minooka as a borough title when making application for incorporation gave itself the name of Taylorport, neither especially elegant or good on account of a Taylorville in the State. Pleasant Valley Borough, after incorporation as such, was forced to change the title to Avoca, the name given to the postoffice soon after incorporation. Other instances of trouble in this line are seen everywhere. But there are always names to be found without referring to the State's postoffice directory, which, on account of their local origin, would make them thoroughly distinctive and eminently fitting as borough nomenclatures. Mistakes already made can be rectified, but people should be careful in future to so name their incorporated towns as to have postoffice and borough names alike, and thus have no need of further trouble on account of mistakes made in the start.

**THE NAME FOR LUZERNE BOROUGH.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** Instead of the name "Hartsuff," as suggested in last week's Record, the name of the borough should be East Bennet, to distinguish it from a town named Bennet in the western part of the State. Before her death Mrs. Sarah Bennet gave the ground for the school house, both churches, also for the station, besides giving \$3,000 toward the building of the Presbyterian Church. Her daughter, Miss Martha Bennet, has, since her mother's death, given a double lot to the Bennet Presbyterian congregation for a par-

sonage, and takes considerable interest in the borough. The ground where the D. L. & W. station stands was deeded to them with the understanding that the station should be named Bennet, so that it is impossible now to change it. The Postoffice Department at Washington seven years ago refused to name the postoffice Bennet, or East Bennet, because there was a postoffice in the western part of this State named Bennet. The difficulty is not in confounding the name of the town with that of the county, but in naming the station Bennet and the postoffice Luzerne, and unless the name of the postoffice is changed to Bennet or East Bennet, it will in all probability remain what it now is for some time to come.

**A PECULIAR WINTER.**

**But There is Plenty of Chance for Freezing Weather Yet.**

Captain Henry E. Melville, who has just entered upon his eighteenth consecutive year of service as superintendent of the Philadelphia City Ice Boats, has furnished a *Ledger* reporter with the following dates at which the Delaware river was sufficiently obstructed by ice to warrant the city ice boats being placed in service since 1873:

Winter of 1772-73, December 1; winter of 1873-74, January 15; winter of 1874-75, December 30; winter of 1875-76, December 19; winter of 1876-77, December 10; winter of 1877-78, January 3; winter of 1878-79, December 23; winter of 1879-80, December 31; winter of 1880-81, December 11; winter of 1881-82, January 4; winter of 1882-83, December 20; winter of 1883-84, December 25; winter of 1884-85, Dec. 20; winter of 1885-86, Jan. 10; winter of 1886-87, Dec. 6; winter of 1887-88, Dec. 29. In the winter of 1888-89 the boats were kept in readiness with half crews, but they were not called into service during the entire winter. The first ice appeared last winter Dec. 23, and disappeared Dec. 30; appeared again Feb. 13 and disappeared Feb. 20; again appeared Feb. 24, and finally disappeared for the season four days later, the ice at no time being over two inches thick.

By the above record it will be seen that the chances of considerable cold weather before the winter is over is very good. In four winters of the eighteen reported the river did not freeze sufficiently to require the services of the ice boats until after Jan. 3.

—The Harrisburg *Telegraph* of January 4, 1890, prints in its Notes and Queries department an article on the Patterson family, which contains interesting material on trade with the Indians from 1700 to 1750.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.**

Several Interesting Papers Read at the Quarterly Meeting — List of the Donations.

A quarterly meeting of Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held at their rooms on South Franklin Street Friday, Sept. 18. Rev. H. L. Jones acted as temporary chairman. Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge and S. J. Straus, Esq., were named for resident membership and were elected by acclamation.

On motion of Rev. H. E. Hayden, Dr. Hodge was elected as meteorologist, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Gen. Dana. The remainder of the evening was occupied with the reading of papers. The first was by Rev. H. E. Hayden entitled, "Oliver Pollock and George Rogers Clark's Conquest of Illinois." The paper dealt mostly with the eventful and exciting career of the former and his contributions, both in a physical and mental sense, to the early history of America. A note was made of the fact that although he was very prominently identified with colonial events, his name was almost entirely forgotten in later times.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Hayden for his paper.

Sheldon Reynolds followed in a paper on the life and services of Judge Edmund L. Dana, deceased, which appears elsewhere in this issue. He was also tendered a vote of thanks. A few general remarks then followed on the character of Judge Dana, and the society adjourned.

Following are the donations for the quarter: C. D. Collet, London, diplomatic fly sheets; New London County Historical Society, memoirs; American Philosophical Society, reports; Bureau of Education, reports; Department of State, reports of U. S. Consuls; Smithsonian Institution, "Mound exploration;" American Geological Society, bulletin; Smithsonian Institution, "Joseph Henry and the Magnetic Telegraph;" Women's Anthropological Society of America, its history; Robert Baur, "Red-Nosed Mike;" American Philosophical Society, "Attempt towards an International Language;" J. Watts de Peyster, LL. D., miscellanies by an officer; Mrs. General McCartney, works on "Woman's Suffrage;" H. C. Sedgwick, marked papers; J. C. Branner, State geologist, reports; R. Baur & Son, "Rachel Craig;" Hon. J. A. Scranton, official war records; Susan B. Anthony, three volumes on "Woman's Suffrage;" Augustus Dohoomaher, report Commerce Commission; A. W. Potter, "Third District Public Schools;" Philosophical Society of Washington, "Philosophy and Specialties, by Garrick Mallory;" Henry Phillips, Jr., pamphlets, proceedings of convention to frame a national bankrupt law; C. W. Darling, "Rise of

Christian Associations;" George D. Conover, "Seneca Indians;" Pacumtuck Valley Memorial Association, "Narrative of Captivity of Stephen Williams;" New London County Historical Society, "Major John Mason Statute;" Geo. Meade, Philadelphia, "Dedication of Monument 6th Pa. Cavalry;" W. W. Parks, "Old New York;" Connecticut Historical Society, "Anniversary of Adoption of First Constitution of Connecticut;" Edward Welles, "Farewell sermon of Jonathan Edwards, D. D.;" Hon. George J. Stegmaler, State reports; Board of Lunacy Commissioners, reports; State Geologist Branner, reports; U. S. Fish Commissioners, "Fish Industry of the U. S.;" Harry Hakes, "The Hakes Family;" Mrs. C. D. Foster, "Treatise of moral and intellectual virtues;" W. C. Shepherd, Indian net sinkers found at Three Cornered Pond; C. B. Snyder, oil painting, "The Last Scalp;" also the proceedings of several historical societies.

**ALL OVER THE COUNTY.****SOLOMON'S GAP.**

John Trimble is one of the oldest residents of this place, having lived here 19 years. Some years ago he had the misfortune of losing his right leg. He has built a neat residence, together with a three story building attached. The upper floor is used as a lodge room by various lodges. The second is a hall for general purposes. The lower floor is used as a temperance hotel, and run by Mr. Gimble, who is not able to work, having lost his leg.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank are the two oldest people here, if not in the county. It was said that they were 96 and 94 respectively. Mr. Frank, who is 96, is enjoying excellent health, and is bright and active. Mrs. Frank is also in comparatively good health for a person of her age.

**ASKAM.**

Rev. Richard Metcalf is now 80 years of age. His father emigrated to this country from Yorkshire, England, in the year 1835, and settled in Wilkes-Barre, where he lived 10 years. Richard, when about 25 years of age, removed to Rush County, Ind., thence to Wabash County, Ill., and after having lived there some years removed to Askam in the year 1845, where he has lived ever since. There were born to them four children, all of whom are living; R. R. Metcalf, Ann, widow of the late Miles Holcomb, both of Hanover Township; John W. Metcalf, of Huntington Township, and Isabel, wife of Clark Harned, of Union Township. Mr. Metcalf, notwithstanding his advanced age, is in good health and very active. Mr. Metcalf has been an active member of the M. E. Church about 60 years, and an ordained minister 41 years.

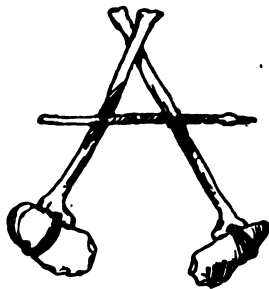
E. M. E.

## FROM PRIMAL AGES.

### AN INDIAN WORKSHOP DISCOVERED NEAR WASHINGTON.

Two Miles from the White House—Rich Find in Archaeology—Where the Savages Made Arrows and Hatchets—Washington Paved with the Red Man's Relics.

[Special Washington Letter.]



CORDING to recent finds of the bureau of ethnology, of which Major J. W. Powell is the head, the political capital of the United States is on the very spot where stood the industrial and art capital of the Atlantic coast aborigines. It is announced that within easy distance of the dome of the capitol are the remains of the ancient workshop, and that the city of Washington is paved with the art relics of a race absolutely unknown to our people, who occupied and deserted the place in the dim and misty past. In the vicinity of the city rude stone implements are found in great numbers. So thoroughly scattered throughout the Potomac valley are they that they are brought in with every load of gravel from the creek beds, and the laborer breaking stone for our streets each year passes thousands of them under his hammer. These curious relics have at all times attracted considerable attention from archaeologists, but it is only recently that they have received careful study. Of late Professor W. H. Holmes, the archaeologist of the bureau of ethnology, has given them his undivided attention, and he has been led to a number of important conclusions.

Within a mile of the city limits a quarry workshop of these early stone workers has been unearthed and can be seen to-day almost exactly as it was left by this prehistoric people. This is one of the most fertile fields for archaeological research to be found anywhere in this country. This workshop of the

ancient flaked-stone tool cutters has now been carefully examined and a large number of



WHERE RELICS ARE FOUND.

specimens of this early work have been preserved for further study and speculation. Recently a Star reporter accompanied Professor Holmes to the scene of his labors.

Arrived at the bridge over Piney Branch out Fourteenth street, one is already within the limits of the implement-bearing area, and the rude objects may be picked up on all hands, in the lanes that lead up through the forest-skirted farm in the beds of all the streams and upon all the slopes including an area three-fourths of a mile square.

The committee of research under Professor Holmes was particularly concerned with a portion of this area on the north side of the creek and lying just west of Fourteenth street road. Here the plateau faces rise to 100 feet above the creek bed and 200 feet above tidewater. The slopes are precipitous, but generally even and regular, and are covered with forest, much of which is primeval.

Upon these steep slopes the primitive people found the material used in implement making, and here they worked until a mass of refuse of astonishing magnitude was accumulated, and which is found not only upon the slopes but in the masses of gravel at the base of the slopes and in the flood

planes of the valley even down to Rock creek and for an unknown distance along its course.

So far as is known the first discovery of implements upon this particular site was made by Dr. DeLancy Gill, who at that time, 1887, was Mr. Holmes' assistant in the illustrations division of the geological survey, and is now in charge of that work.

Professor Holmes, after visiting the place several times, made a systematic search for the old workshop and quarry, last month. He determined the location of the old quarry and excavated a trench which cut a section directly across the line followed by the ancient workman in his labors. He was rewarded by finding a little below the surface beds of the half-finished and rejected implements thrown aside by the workmen. It would appear that in seeking suitable boulders



LOCATING THE OLD QUARRY.

from which to form their implements they worked over a large part of the slope and that millions of worked stones and broken fragments now occupy the site.

In cutting the section from below the first positive evidence of ancient excavation was encountered at about the thirty-fifth foot and at the fortieth foot this work had reached five feet in depth beneath the present surface. At the fiftieth foot it had reached five and a half feet and at the sixtieth foot it was six feet deep and had penetrated the slope gravels to within one foot of the underlying mica schist. At the seventieth foot the gravels

had been entirely penetrated and the ancient workmen had stood upon the surface of the mica schist nine feet below the surface, and had there shaped his rude stone tools. At the seventy-ninth foot they encountered the face of the Potomac boulder bed, a wall of ovoid quartzites. This was the quarry face

of the ancient miner. Facing a wall like this he was in a position to supply the whole ancient world with the raw material for one of its most important arts.

The magnitude of the work accomplished by the ancient miners will be realized when it is stated that the section made by Mr. Holmes crossed a belt of worked material fifty feet wide and on an average about six feet deep, and that this belt extends horizontally along the bluff for an unknown distance, probably a half mile in length.

From a trench three feet wide and fifty feet long cut through the artificial deposits of this slope have been obtained 3,000 worked stones, all exhibiting design, and over a thousand cubic feet of material have been examined and shifted, all or nearly all of which consisted of fragments from his hammer.



HOW THE IMPLEMENTS WERE MADE.

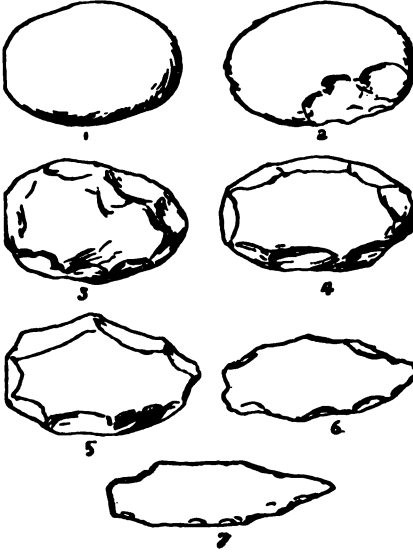
Professor Holmes showed the reporter how, in all probability, the ancient workman proceeded with his task.

Taking up two boulders and adjusting them to the hands, the first step was to strike the edge of one against that of the other at the proper angle to detach a flake; the second step and the third were the same, and so on



until the circuit was completed. If no false step was made and the stone had the right fracture these few strokes, occupying but as many seconds, gave as a result the typical turtle back—a boulder with one side faceted by artificial flaking; the other side, save through accident, remaining smooth.

With perhaps a few additional strong strokes the second stage was completed and the rough stone began to suggest the outlines of the final form.



SPECIMEN RELICS.

There have been collected from this one small spot fully 1,000 "turtle backs" of the two forms, a greater number than has been found heretofore in the whole Potomac province. And why? There can be, Mr. Holmes says, but one answer: This spot is the great workshop and these things are the failures. Out of 1,400 specimens that have been examined carefully there were only twelve that approached anywhere near perfection. The conclusion to be derived from a consideration of these figures is that all perfect specimens, and they alone, have been carried away as being the entire product of the shop. The heaps remaining are composed of the rejected and defective materials.

The rough fashioning of the boulders at the quarry was only the first part of the workman's task. It is more than likely that

those specimens that seemed suitable for further working were taken back to their villages and homes to be completed at their leisure.

When asked by the reporter as to the age and race to which these workmen belonged, Professor Holmes said that if the evidence is not decidedly in favor of great age, the natural conclusion is that the race concerned is the Red Indian, for he is well known to us as an actual occupant of the region. If, on the contrary, the evidence favors great age, we shall be warranted in advocating the existence of a people distinct from the Indian and belonging to another and earlier stage of culture.

An examination of the quarry shop refuse makes it apparent that the period of occupation was very long. The accumulations of worked material are of enormous extent and remarkable thickness; their great degree of compactness is also a notable feature. A fine chestnut fully a century old stands upon the surface of a bed of refuse which is filled with artificial remains to a depth not even penetrated by the strongest roots, but the age of a tree, or of many generations of trees, will not carry us back beyond the age of the Indian.

Professor Holmes thought there was no evidence to carry the history of man in this place back beyond the age of the Indian, and a number of things conspire to confine it to that period.

There is no evidence of a cultural kind that points significantly to another race. Mining and quarrying are well-known accomplishments of the red man, and we have here on Rock creek and near at hand soapstone quarries that no one would think of attributing to any other people.

Considering these facts Mr. Holmes believes it would be unwise to seek in haste to supersede him by any unidentified or unknown race.

This opinion of Professor Holmes accords with the conclusion recently expressed by Major Powell, in the Forum, that the "Mound Builders" were none other than the red Indian, and that no art remains on this continent point to the existence here of any more cultured or civilized race than the red man of our recent history. At this the "Mound Builders" as a distinct people vanish, as does the claim that the Aztecs or Toltecons ever came further northward than Yucatan and Mexico, where their ruins are found.

FRANK CARPENTER.

## ANCIENT EGYPT.

**A Wilkes-Barre Audience has the Highly Intellectual Feast of a Lecture by a Distinguished Englishwoman.**

Miss Amelia B. Edwards, the famous Egyptologist, lectured, March 11, before a large audience in Music Hall. The ladies of the Relief Corps, under whose auspices she came, certainly reserved their finest attraction for the close of their very successful course. The distinguished lady was introduced by Rev. Henry L. Jones. She carried her left arm in a sling, she having fallen and broken her wrist a few nights ago while attending a reception at Columbus, O. Miss Edwards is evidently timid about receptions now, for she accepted the hospitality of Mrs. Charles Parrish's handsome home on the sole condition that there be no reception. Miss Edwards is an Englishwoman of sixty years and her dark hair, which she wears pompadour, is turning gray. She has a highly intellectual cast of countenance and possesses an excellent voice. She has distinguished herself no less in the world of art and letters than in scientific explorations. As a novelist she has had admirers the world over and as a student of buried Egypt she has won numerous degrees from colleges in England and America. She began a course of 100 lectures in America in November last.

The first half of the lecture is devoted to subject matter on the literature and religion of Egypt, which she reads from manuscript by the aid of curiously protected candles. In the second half the hall is darkened and the audience enjoy superb reproductions of Egyptian tablets and writings as shown by the stereopticon. Egyptian drawing was certainly pretty rank, from a modern standpoint, and Miss Edwards was more frank than most enthusiasts—she made no secret of drawing the long bow in the matter of interpretation, and she extracted a good bit of humor from its grotesqueness.

The speaker began by showing that the earliest nations had no literature. When the only writing material was stone there were necessarily few productions other than inscriptions and State documents. Literature was the fruit of leisure. It was only when papyrus, then parchment and finally paper came into use that literature as a career or recreation became possible—the former two for Greek and Roman literature, paper for the Renaissance. Literature grows out of peace, not out of war. Egypt had no struggle for exist-

ence at the outset of its career. It was strongly fortified by nature and it was not until she had passed through 13 dynasties and had been ruled by 200 kings that she was first invaded by a foreign foe. They were a pastoral and peaceful people, content with enjoying this world and preparing for the next. It was enough to cultivate the paternal acres, to meditate on morals and religion and to prepare a tomb for one's mummy. He loved, too, to record his meditations.

How early papyrus was used we do not know. But it was used as early as the third dynasty, four thousand years before Christ. The oldest is in Paris, but we have an inscription on stone, 200 years earlier, in the second dynasty. But stone-cut inscriptions are scarcely literature, nor are obelisks and triumphal arches. Literature is what can be stored in a library—books, clay cylinders or papyrus rolls. The Egyptians were the first to write books. Their literature—which was of most varied character—grew, flourished and decayed. It embraced moral and educational treatises, state papers, geometry, medicine, magic, heroics, love essays, hymns, dirges, rituals and prayers. Some of these are as old as the great pyramid, others are as recent as the time when Egypt had fallen so low as to become a Roman province. Between these two extremes was a period of five thousand years. We possess only the scattered wrecks. Yet so small a proportion exceeds in mere bulk all that remains from the literature of Greece. Their poetry had no rhyme or meter, but had rhythm and was largely cadence and the style was most capricious, the changes from dialogue to description being unmarked. Miss Edwards read several translations of the thrilling epic poetry describing the battles fought by Itamenes and also recited a fragment in the original language of the Egyptians, its cadences being most peculiar. The effort won great applause.

Speaking of the scientific literature the speaker said it possessed no value to us moderns. We smile at their fanciful speculations, though we wonder when we see how near they come to grasping great truths which came as great discoveries to later ages. They understood much of astronomy. One inscription describes how the earth navigates the celestial ocean as do the planets, and another mentions that the earth revolves.

The Egyptians, kings included, made a profound study of medicine, and there are five medical papyri extant, one comprising 110 pages, and dating back to 1500 B. C. Doctors dared not be original. They must follow the beaten path. To experiment and to lose the patient meant death penalty for the doctor. Their *materia medica* comprised the most revolting ingredients, and

though medicine to-day is bad enough, we ought to congratulate ourselves that we moderns escaped the doctors of Memphis and Thebes.

Miss Edwards said that some of Esop's fables and such fairy tales as Cinderella, Sinbad, the Sailor, and Ali Babi and the Forty Thieves, were all anticipated in the literature of Egypt. She gave a stanza of a paraphrase of a threshing chant, 1650 B. C.:

He along, oxen, faster and faster;  
The straw for yourselves, the grain  
for your master.

As to the religion of Egypt, it was so complicated as to be imperfectly understood. Every new tomb opened reveals something which adds to the complexity and overturns previous accepted conclusions. There was not one religion but a whole family of religions. It springs from most ancient stock and ramifies in all directions. It included monotheism, polytheism, pantheism. But these were not revolutionary, one succeeding the other—the Egyptian somehow contrived to believe them all. The speaker did not believe the theory of Dr. Brugsch and other learned Egyptologists that the religion was homogeneous, and that it represented only varying aspects of one fundamental truth. She believed that the people of Egypt were like our American Indians—divided into tribes or clans. As one of our aboriginal tribes had a bear for its totem, another a wolf, another a fox, and so on, so one clan of Egypt had a crocodile, another a vulture, another a jackal, another a bull, and so on. There must have been long ages of preparation because at the date of our oldest inscription the Egyptians had an alphabet and a complete grammar.

Did they ever rise to the worship of one God? Yes, but not monotheism pure and simple like ours. It was based on the polytheism of earlier ages. There was unity and universality for each local deity, but they never agreed to abolish their pantheon in favor of one deity. But they were the first people in history to teach the immortality of the soul. Man was a microcosm—made up of body, soul, spirit, name, shadow and *kah*, which the lecturer suggested stood for physical life. A reunion of all these parts was an essential in the life to come. Hence the care of preserving the body as a mummy.

With them none need hope for a happy hereafter unless he led a pure and holy life. He must have clean hands, a clean heart and a right conscience if he hoped to stand before Osiris. The Egyptians had many childish fancies, but in the matter of such cardinal virtues as truth, justice and purity they would not have much to learn from us of the 19th century.

#### Honor to Whom Honor is Due.

[Communicated.]

The worthy descendants of our Connecticut ancestors here in Wyoming ought to feel complimented when they see that persons who have no claim to this proud distinction, (or rather some not overwell informed newspaper man is claiming it for them) that they are descended from that hardy and adventurous stock. The following from the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer* as to the genealogy of the Scrantons is a case in point. In speaking of Miss Scranton the correspondent says:

"Her father belongs to the celebrated Scrantons of Connecticut, who established themselves in that section of Pennsylvania embraced within the region claimed by the province of Connecticut under her original charter, and on a tract of land which to-day is the site of that populous industrial center which bears the family name of the Scrantons."

All this is very pretty and would be important if true. Not that it is an intentional desire to deprive the honorable family of Scranton from sharing some of the glory of our pioneer Connecticut families, but such not being the fact, the facts are mentioned merely to show that the descendants of the early settlers should have a pride of birth of some value, when they find others whose ancestors had no part in our early trials and hardships of pioneer life appropriating to themselves some of the distinction to which they are not justly entitled. If we are not mistaken the name does not appear among the early settlers of Wyoming. The land spoken of as being the patrimony of that family was originally the property of the Slocums, of Wilkes-Barre, Ebenezer, the pioneer in that portion of the Lackawanna Valley, being a brother of Frances Slocum, the "Lost Sister of Wyoming." The Scrantons never saw the Lackawanna Valley until some time along in the forties.

#### Two Old Ladies.

Mrs. Hannah Abbott, widow of John Abbott, who resides in this city, celebrated her 92d birthday on February 7. Her mind is still clear and active. She is a daughter of Cornelius Courtright and was born in Plains. She is perhaps the oldest person in Wilkes-Barre who was born in Wyoming Valley.

Mrs. Mary Searl, of Plains will, if she lives, soon reach her 90th birthday. She has been quite weak for some months.—*Wilkes-Barre Telephone*.

**OUR COAL INDUSTRY.**

**Valuable and Interesting Information Gathered by Mine Inspector Williams, Showing the Comparative Production.**

In the tables below will be found the figures of work in the Wyoming coal fields of the Third Inspection District for the year 1889. They have just been compiled by Mine Inspector Williams for incorporation into his annual report, which will be printed towards the close of this year. The discrepancy in the production of coal for 1888 and 1889 is shown to be over a million tons less in the latter year than in the former. The number of tons of coal mined in 1888 was 8,384,493 and in 1889, 7,390,123; the production of all of the companies sharing in the decrease. The number of persons seriously injured in 1888 was 250 and in 1889 214, and number of persons killed in 1888 was 83 and in 1889 it was 67. In 1888 the number of tons of coal mined for each life lost was 104,632 and in 1889, 109,405 tons were mined for each life lost.

**LEHIGH & WILKES-BARRE.**

	Tons of Coal Mined.	Tons of Coal Shipped.	Days Worked.
Diamond.....	7,273	6,109	15.17
Hollenback.....	193,214	117,343	128.66
Empire.....	238,645	236,080	166.06
Stanton.....	214,745	204,489	169.65
South Wilkes-Barre	19,782	19,782	No b'ker
Jersey.....	107,566	102,174	149.50
Sugar Notch.....	144,460	142,411	164.30
Wauamie.....	126,789	125,060	170.30
Lance.....	189,996	188,863	174.50
Nottingham.....	483,646	476,079	177.75
Reynolds.....	142,142	142,142	177.00
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,808,171</b>	<b>1,761,116</b>	<b>164.60</b>

**DELAWARE & HUDSON.**

Baltimore.....	96,014	96,014	199.75
Baltimore Tunnel..	135,568	133,603	226.50
Conyngbam.....	121,948	118,389	229.50
Boston.....	142,954	137,854	159.50
Shaft No. 2.....	63,119	63,819	120.50
Shaft No. 3.....	178,901	177,267	198.50
Shaft No. 4.....	163,202	163,182	224.25
Shaft No. 5.....	157,873	154,674	182.35
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,060,182</b>	<b>1,044,804</b>	<b>192.52</b>

**SUSQUEHANNA COAL CO.**

Breaker No. 1.....	206,356		239.80
Breaker No. 2.....	440,559		239.00
Grand Tunnel.....	71,999	1,597,579	159.40
Breaker No. 5.....	514,439		285.25
Breaker No. 6.....	385,492		214.10
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,618,847</b>	<b>1,597,579</b>	<b>217.51</b>

**KINGSTON COAL CO.**

No. 1 Shaft.....	183,248		173.693
No. 2 Shaft.....	293,462		183.65
No. 4 Shaft.....	96,160		96.160
Gaylord.....	258,861	258,724	172.50
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>831,733</b>	<b>820,041</b>	<b>172.22</b>

**DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA & WESTERN.**

Woodward.....	96,184	74,763	135.90
Avondale.....	121,886	115,489	133.20
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>217,070</b>	<b>190,253</b>	<b>134.55</b>

**LEHIGH VALLEY.**

Franklin.....	100,603	80,071	190.50
Dorrance.....	110,198	101,784	231.90
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>210,801</b>	<b>181,855</b>	<b>211.20</b>

**RED ASH COAL CO.**

Red Ash, No. 1.....	139,378	139,378	178.15
Red Ash, No. 2.....	164,170	161,263	175.00
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>303,548</b>	<b>300,631</b>	<b>176.57</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS COAL COMPANIES.**

Alden.....	263,652	265,084	224.50
Dodson.....	145,170	130,122	192.45
Hillman Vein.....	64,380	46,778	146.20
Maffet.....	154,574	153,890	210.80
Parrish.....	281,684	277,689	292.60
West End.....	204,366	187,713	271.15
Newport or East End..	67,041	64,149	212.00
Warrior Run.....	98,917	83,247	196.20
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,279,767</b>	<b>1,198,576</b>	<b>206.98</b>

Grand totals.....—7,390,123 7,094,867 \*184.62

The following table shows total number of persons employed, as also the number of fatal and non-fatal accidents:

	No. persons employed.	No. fatal accidents.	No non-fatal accidents.
L. & W.-B Coal Co.....	5,383	16	61
D. & H. Canal Co.....	2,861	5	15
Susquehanna Coal Co.....	4,248	21	52
Kingston Coal Co.....	1,873	13	19
D. L. & W. R. R. Co.....	744		
Lehigh Valley Coal Co.....	654		12
Red Ash Coal Co.....	724	1	6
Miscellaneous Coal Cos..	3,365	11	42
<b>Grand totals.....</b>	<b>19,752</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>214</b>

N. B.—In the total production of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co. 38,280.85 tons of culm and 27,464 tons of buckwheat coal are included. In the shipments of the same company 34,265.40 tons of culm and 30,949.95 tons of buckwheat coal are included.

\*Average.

**Three-Quarters of a Century Old.**

W. L. Millham hands the RECORD an old check reading as follows:

July 31st, 1815.

Office of Discount and Deposit at Wilkes-Barre.

Pay to S. H. Orwell or Bearer

Ten Dollars.

10 Dols. Cents. EBENEZER BOWMAN.

—The *Plaineater*, of Bath, N. Y., prints an interesting Historical Column each week. Just now it is writing up the pioneers of Steuben County. The issue for January 4, 1890, describes Capt. Silas Wheeler and his experience with Arnold's expedition to Canada.

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

**Annual Meeting—Election of Officers—Valuable Contributions from Libraries of Deceased Veterans—Ten Members Died in 1889.**

When the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society held its annual meeting Feb. 11, two faces always present on previous years—those of Judge Dana and Dr. Ingham—were missing. Both had died since the last annual meeting. The meeting was held at 11 a. m. in the office of Sheldon Reynolds. Wm. P. Miner was made chairman. Among those present were A. T. McClintock, S. L. Brown, G. B. Kulp, T. B. Hillard, C. A. Miner, G. B. Bedford, S. Reynolds, H. H. Harvey, Mrs. McCartney, and Col. Reynolds.

George B. Kulp announced the death of 10 members during 1889:

Hervey S. Rutter,	Edmund L. Dana,
Simon Cameron,	Dr. Joshua L. Miner,
Edward P. Darling,	Leo Lesquereux,
Wm. M. Darlington,	Charles A. Ashburner,
Wm. McK. Piatt,	Dr. C. F. Ingham.

A. H. McClintock, treasurer, reported the net receipts at \$1,857, and the expenditures, \$1,929. The receipts included \$440 dues, and \$1,200 from the following life memberships: Sheldon Reynolds, S. L. Brown, J. W. Hollenback, C. D. Foster, L. D. Shoemaker, Eckley B. Coxe, Emily L. Wright, J. Ridgeway Wright, estate of H. H. Derr, A. F. Derr, John Belchard, Augusta McClintock.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, A. T. McClintock, LL. D.  
Vice presidents, Rev. H. L. Jones, Hon. E. B. Coxe, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker.

Trustees, Hon. O. A. Miner, Edward Welles, S. L. Brown, Dr. L. H. Taylor, H. H. Harvey.

Treasurer, A. H. McClintock.  
Recording secretary, S. C. Struthers.  
Corresponding secretary, Sheldon Reynolds.

Librarian, Hon. J. R. Wright.  
Assistant Librarian, F. O. Johnson.  
Historiographer, George B. Kulp.  
Meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.  
Curators:

Mineralogy and conchology, I. A. Stearns.  
Paleontology, R. D. Lacey.  
Archeology, Sheldon Reynolds.  
Numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Acknowledgment was made of contributions for the year. Over 800 books, pamphlets, etc., were received from the estate of Col. A. H. Bowman, including these:

Art of war in Europe; military commission to Europe; U. S. naval astronomical ex-

pedition; explorations and surveys for R. R. route from Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean; finance reports; military tactics and ordnance manuals; military laws and army regulations; coast survey; miscellaneous military publications; cyclopædias, etc.; engineering and fortifications; scientific; fiction; poetry; 25 gold, silver and copper coins; a large collection of minerals, shells, fossils, petrifications and curios, photographs, etc.

From estate of the late E. L. Dana: Pennsylvania State Reports, United States Government Reports, magazines and periodicals, files of *Vidette*, WILKES-BARRE RECORD, *Luzerne Legal Register*, *Scranton Law Times*, pamphlets, Indian relics, minerals, manuscripts of Mexican and Civil War, Regimental marker of 143d P. V., Regimental Descriptive Book, 143d P. V.

Miscellaneous Donations—Bound volumes, 125; pamphlets, 92, files of WILKES-BARRE RECORD, *Wilkes-Barre Leader*, *Wilkes-Barre Telephone*, *Wilkes-Barre News-Dealer*, *Luzerne County Express*, *Democratischer Wochener*, *Samstag Abend*, *Patent Office Gazette*, *American Antiquarian*, *Pennsylvania Magazine*, *Historical Record*, *Old New York*, 37 net sinkers from W. C. Shepherd, 1 painting, "The Last Scalp," C. B. Snyder.

## Almost a Century Old.

The many acquaintances of J. O. Rezeau and H. G. Rezeau, of Waverly, N. Y., in this city, will read the following from the home paper with interest:

The New Orleans *Picayune*, of January 12, 1890, contains a long account of the celebration of Mrs. Lydia Rezeau's ninety-eighth birthday, which occurred in that city on that date. She is the mother of our worthy townsman, Joseph O. Rezeau, and retains her mental faculties and strength to a remarkable degree. She was the mother of ten children, four of whom are still living, viz: three daughters and one son. Her maiden name was Oakden, and she married Mr. Rezeau seventy-six years ago. Her husband carried on a hardware and copper-smithing business in New York. He made the boiler for the Fulton, the first steamship that ever went up the Hudson. He forged the copper bell, the first hung in Tammany Hall, and also constructed the first soda water fountain ever made in the great metropolis.

## Substantial Memorial to a Brother.

Col. Charles Dorrance commemorated his 85th birthday by a contribution of five thousand dollars to the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, of which his brother, the late Rev. John Dorrance, D. D., was the honored pastor for upwards of twenty-eight years.

### COAL IN THE REVOLUTION.

**Shipments from the Wyoming Mines for the Government Forge at Carlisle—A Question and Its Answer.**

Isaac Craig, the well-known antiquary, of Allegheny City, addresses the appended note to the Notes and Queries Column of the *Harrisburg Telegraph*:

In an interesting little work on "Coal and Coal Mines," by Homer Greene, Esq., of Honesdale, I found the following statement on pp. 46 and 47:

"In 1776 the proprietary government of Pennsylvania had an armory at Carlisle, in that State, in which they were manufacturing fire arms to be used by the Continental troops in the war with Great Britain; and the first coal ever sent out from the Wyoming Valley was shipped by them to Carlisle during that year and the succeeding years of the war for use in their armory."

As I could not recollect any mention of an armory at Carlisle, and failing to find any note of it, I wrote to Mr. Greene, and he writes that he found the fact in *Pearce's Annals of Luzerne County*, p. 366, and in *Hollister's History of the Lackawanna Valley*, p. 335. But Wright, in his *Historical Sketches of Plymouth*, in the chapter on the coal trade, etc., agrees with the commonly accepted story that the first cargo of anthracite ever offered for sale was by Abijah Smith, in the fall of 1807. I am much interested in both the armory at Carlisle and the coal shipment stories, and hope you may be able to give some light on the matter.

[Dr. W. H. Egle replies as follows: The authorities referred to in the foregoing are somewhat out of the way. On the 25th of November, 1780, the Congress "Resolved. That all the artificers in the department of military stores in Pennsylvania be removed to Carlisle, and that in future only an issuing store and an elaboratory for fixing ammunition be kept in Philadelphia." Immediately thereafter Col. Blaine was directed to prepare stores, etc., for the troops, and during the month of December, 1780, nearly all the artificers were sent to Carlisle. The barracks erected by the Hessian prisoners confined at Carlisle, now the site of the present Indian training school, were occupied by these men, and over whom Captain Worsley Emes, a skilled artificer, was placed in command. The location is named in private letters of the period as Washington Borough and Washingtonville. There is no doubt that coal from Wyoming was there used in the casting of cannon, as it could have been more readily brought down the river Susquehanna in batteaux, than the hauling of sea coal from Philadelphia for that purpose. It is well known that provisions were taken up the Susquehanna, and as coal was then known

and probably mined, the batteaux in returning evidently conveyed the same to Kelso's ferry, opposite Harrisburg.]

### Ira R. Baldwin Dead.

The following extract is from an article on "Arizona's Development" in the *San Diego, Cal., Golden Era* for May, 1889:

"In concluding it is only fair to mention that in his efforts to make the hospital a model one. Dr. Willis is ably seconded by Ira R. Baldwin, an old Union soldier, who holds the position of steward. The latter is the hero of many battles, many hair-breadth escapes, wounds, imprisonments and deprivations in our country's defense, and besides being personally qualified for his present position, it is eminently fitting that such posts of duty and responsibility be given to such men."

A telegram from Tombstone, Arizona, announces that Ira R. Baldwin died there Sunday, Feb. 2.

Mr. Baldwin was born December 2, 1842, at Huntsville, this county. He was a son of the late Maj. Abed Baldwin and a brother of C. J. Baldwin, of Norwalk, Ohio, and of G. L. Baldwin, of Shickshinny, the latter of whom is the only living relative of the name, of a once numerous family, now living in Pennsylvania. The breaking out of the war found Ira in Ohio, where he joined an infantry regiment and hastened to the front. While his brother Lewis, with the Pennsylvania Reserves was driving the Rebels from the crest of South Mountain and from the plains of Antietam Ira was a paroled prisoner in the rear of Lee's army, having remained with his regiment ten days after the expiration of his enlistment to help drive back the Rebel horde from the borders of his native State, only to be ignobly surrendered almost without a struggle, at Harper's Ferry, by Gen. Miles, whose name he ever after held in execration, and always insisted it was his own indignant soldiers who shot Miles—for it is true he was killed a few minutes after he had capitulated.

The enemy held more prisoners than we, hence the government would not exchange paroled prisoners whose enlistments had expired, so Ira hastened to Kansas, joined the militia and helped to drive Quantrell into Indian Territory after he had sacked Lawrence. After the muster out he went to Old Mexico, and later to Vancouver's Island, and finally settled in Tombstone, where Sunday ended a life fittingly portrayed in the extract from the magazine above quoted.

Burnside's Post, 37, Department of Arizona, in which he was O. D., bore his remains to their last rendezvous with all the honors due a dead patriot.

Rest in peace, patriot, friend and brother.

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**Death of George H. Voorhis.**

[Daily Record, March 12.]

For several weeks the death of George H. Voorhis has been expected, since paralysis of the brain was threatened, and many times the anxious members of the family have approached the bedside expecting to see his eyes close in death. Tuesday night at 8:15 he passed to death from the semi-conscious condition in which he lay for some time. Severe, but not unlooked for, is the blow to the family, for he was one of the kindest of husbands and a most considerate father.

Mr. Voorhis had been in the furniture and undertaking business in Wilkes-Barre 21 years, and was noted for his sterling traits of character. He was untiring in business and of the strictest integrity. During his business career he has been in partnership with Charles F. Murray—first as Voorhis & Page, then as Voorhis, Page & Co., and finally when Mr. Page retired to accept the presidency of the Williamsport Furniture Co., as Voorhis & Murray.

He was 62 years old in October last. He was born in Bradford County, and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1869. His three children are Mrs. W. H. Nicholas and Burton Voorhis, of this city, and Clayton Voorhis, of Gladstone, Mich.

The following brothers and sisters survive: Charles Voorhis, Cassopolis, Mich.; Mrs. Samuel Harkness and Mrs. O. P. Harkness, Springfield, Pa.; Wm. E. Voorhis, Smithfield, Pa.; Harrison Voorhis, Athens, Pa.

**Death of George B. Wood.**

George B. Wood, a well known resident of this city, died at his home on South Main Street Monday afternoon of paralysis of the brain, aged 42 years. He had been sick for the past four years, but at times was able to be out and enjoy a walk. For three weeks he suffered very much and was confined to his bed, a helpless invalid. He leaves a wife and daughter, Mabel, aged five years, to mourn his loss. He was a son of the late John B. Wood and a brother of John G. Wood, of Franklin Street. During his lifetime he formed the acquaintance of a large number of people, especially in his place of residence. He possessed a kind disposition and a charitable nature and was well liked by all. He was the owner of the building in which the Boston Stores are located.

The room in which reposed the remains was filled on Wednesday afternoon with sorrowful friends and members of the family. The remembrance of Mr. Wood's more generous traits of character touched the hearts of many of those present. The services were conducted by Dr. Phillips and Rev. A. Griffin, and their last words spoken before the casket was sealed were of the lessons of death and of the lives of the living,

solemn yet hopeful. The pall bearers were L. J. Fogel, W. J. Smith, Charles Price, J. F. Wilson, James Hitchler and Mr. Hanover.

**Died on Her Birthday.**

Mrs. Genet Rubin, wife of Rev. H. Rubin, died at 8 p. m. Feb. 3. She reached the age of 59 years on Monday. Mr. Rubin was twice married, his former wife dying about twenty years ago. The deceased was well known and had many warm friends.

She came to this country from Giebelstadt, Bavaria, thirty years ago. She leaves no children of her own. She was the sister of Mrs. D. Lowenburg, of Bloomsburg; Mrs. Simon Feldman, of Pittston, and Lazarus and David Cohen, of New York. Mrs. Rubin was of gentle disposition and a loving wife. Her loss will fall heavily upon her husband and step children. The latter she loved as kindly as though they were her own.

This is Mr. Rubin's second affliction within a month. Only a few days ago he attended the funeral of his brother, who was a Jewish Rabbi in New York.

**Death of Stephen Hartman.**

Mr. Stephen Hartman died at his residence, in Union, on Feb. 1, after an illness of several years. The deceased was stricken with paralysis some time ago and from that time until his death was an invalid. Mr. Hartman was in his 74th year and was born in Union township, where he reared a large family. In the affairs of his locality he always manifested a great interest and was ever honored among his neighbors as an upright man and a patriotic citizen. Mr. Hartman is survived by his wife, Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman, the historian of Huntington Valley, Edward S. and Luther T. Hartman, of this place, Arthur S. Hartman, of Peckville; Mrs. R. A. Wheeler, Mrs. Charles Gregory, Mrs. Wolf and Mrs. Belles, all of Union.—*Shickshinny Echo.*

**A Former Wilkes-Barre Lady Dead.**

[Daily Record, Feb. 14.]

Mrs. Sarah J. Muller died at her home in New York City, Wednesday evening, Feb. 12, 1890. She was a sister of L. and P. H. Myers, and was aged 60 years. Mrs. Muller was a native of Wilkes-Barre and lived here for several years after she was married. Her husband died several years ago. She is survived by one child, a son, Augustus. Funeral Saturday in New York, from her residence, 406 East 15th Street. Mrs. Muller had been ill with pneumonia, but was supposed to be recovering. It is only a few days ago that Mrs. Muller renewed her subscription to the WEEKLY RECORD and wrote to the publishers that she was nearly recovered.

**Death of a Wyoming Valley Doctor.**

Dr. John A. Hann, who died in Scranton Feb. 17, 1890, was one of the oldest physicians in Lackawanna, having been actively engaged in the practice of medicine more than forty years.

He was born in Hackettstown, New Jersey, in 1818, where he spent the early years of his life. He was educated at Hackettstown Academy. He married Miss Frances Lewis, of Stanhope, N. J., who survives him, in 1839.

Shortly after his marriage he came to Pennsylvania and engaged in teaching at Pittston and Kingston, at the same time studying medicine under the direction of Dr. Miner, of Wilkes-Barre. He graduated from the Jefferson Medical College and afterward took a post graduate course in the college.

He settled first in Wyoming and from there went to Pittston. He was very successful as a physician, winning a high reputation and securing a large and lucrative practice almost immediately. His field of practice extended from Lackawanna to Wilkes-Barre. He was compelled to give up practice here on account of failing health and went West. In 1868 he retired from practice and removed to Scranton, where he lived until his death. He leaves a widow and three children, John L. Hann, of Taylorville; Mary L. Hann and Mrs. Elizabeth Maclay, wife of Wendell Maclay, Esq., of Scranton.—*Republican*.

**Death of Mrs. Lucinda Patterson.**

[Communicated.]

Mrs. Lucinda, wife of James Patterson, died at her home in Trucksville, Feb. 5, in the 70th year of her age. She was sorely afflicted for many months, but bore her sufferings uncomplainingly and patiently. She was a kind and devoted wife, bearing well her part of life's duties, and an affectionate and loving mother. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and when able it was her pleasure to attend services in God's house. She leaves a husband and four children, Mrs. Olive A., wife of W. P. Kirkendall, Mrs. Elizabeth, widow of the late Dr. Lewis, Jr., Wm. H. Patterson, a merchant at Wyoming, and Clara Patterson, all of whom spared no pains to cheer their mother's heart and administer to her wants in her last days. Mrs. Patterson is much missed in the community, church and at home.

**The Law Has Relaxed Since Then.**

S. S. Weller has a piece of Continental currency that has been in his family possession for a century. It is an 18 pence bill, dated March 25, 1776, and "printed at Burlington, in New Jersey." The arms of George Third are printed in red ink and on the back is the legend, "To counterfeit is death."

**The Connecticut Intruders.**

[From the following letter in the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, for which Dr. Egle is indebted to Henry L. Harris, it would seem that the "Philadelphia Land Owners" in the Wyoming Valley thought more of their personal quarrel with the Connecticut settlers than they did of the preparations for the defense of their liberties against the arbitrary measures of the British Government. The paper is a valuable one, inasmuch it gives a *small* insight into the actions of the men who were prominent actors in opposition to the Connecticut settlement.]

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 13, 1775.

GENTS: As a large number of the freeholders of your county have chosen us a committee to devise the most effectual means for strengthening your hands in the defence of the county against the hostile invasions of the Connecticut intruders, and as we have collected a considerable sum of money for that purpose, and obtained an order for some powder and lead, we desire that you will be pleased to meet Col. Francis and Mr. Lukens, two of our committee, at Harris' Ferry, on Saturday, the 21st of this month, at which time and place they will acquaint you fully with the application we wish to be made of the contributions, &c., and take your advice therein for preserving the peace of the county, supporting the laws and defending private property. As Messrs. Francis and Lukens take this journey on purpose to meet you, we pray you will not disappoint them or us. We are

Your most humble servants,

JOSEPH SHIPPEN, JR.,  
JAMES IRVINE,  
TURBUTT FRANCIS,  
W. SITGREAVES,  
THOS. WEST,  
WILLIAM SMITH,  
JNO. LUKENS,  
SAM'L MEREDITH,  
JOHN COX.

To William Plunket, William Maclay, Samuel Hunter, Robert Moodie and Michael Troy Esquires, Northumberland County.

—"The Early Settlement of the Juniata Valley," by U. J. Jones, published in 1856, is being carefully reprinted by the Harrisburg publishing company. This valuable work has been so long out of print that the publishers deserve the thanks of all lovers of Pennsylvania history, who will show their appreciation in securing the volume at the low price (\$2) they offer it.—*Harrisburg Telegraph*.



### The New Presbyterian Church.

One of the most handsome church interiors in the State of Pennsylvania and in the United States as well, awaits dedication to the service of Almighty God for the use of the members of the First Presbyterian Church. Monday the massive doors were thrown open to public inspection and all day people came and went and wondered, admiring the perfect harmony in every detail and the many handsome features of the interior. The appearance is so massive and the construction so symmetrical that no idea of the size of the main audience room can be taken in at a glance. When a person stands at one end and another at the other end the deception is noticed. About 1,200 people can be comfortably seated and in case of necessity a great many chairs may be placed about the spacious galleries. A general description of an edifice so beautiful as this to be appreciated must be impressed upon the mind from a personal examination and not from a newspaper article.

A person enters through two doors, separated by a narrow space, when he is confronted with a semi-circular partition, the upper portion made in great part of glass, forming a nicely carpeted passage way between the walls and the main body of the church. From this point of view the beautiful interior is apparent at once. Eight pillars of immense size rise from the floor to the ceiling, some of them eighteen or twenty feet in circumference, suggesting the greatest strength and durability. Large arches rise from the top of some of these columns beginning at the galleries, helping to form a square space at the top, from which the soft light streams through stained glass windows. Upon the seats in the audience room are cushions of old gold plush, enriched by the perfect blending of the light with the color of the woodwork, the color of the softened sunlight and the entire harmony of light and shade. The galleries that rise slantingly on either side are almost as broad as long and very comfortably arranged.

One of the prettiest features is the manner of lighting the new church. Near the entrance is suspended from the ceiling a large double cross, made expressly in Philadelphia. It was thoroughly described in the Philadelphia papers at the time it was shipped here as a great work of art. The cross is hollow and when lighted from the interior presents a very beautiful appearance. The effect is quite novel, very suggestive and has been much admired by those who have seen it when lighted. Near the pulpit is suspended a brass chandelier of immense proportions, weighing, 1,500 pounds. Branching out from the stem are eighty gas jets of different lengths, curved

and moulded. Beneath each jet is an incandescent electric light, making 160 lights on the chandelier. In the galleries are arms at intervals also containing gas jets and incandescent lights. The purpose is not to use both systems at the same time but to be prepared for any emergency in case of the temporary cutting off of either gas or the electric current. The manner of lighting is by a friction wheel in the rear part of the room.

The woodwork throughout the room is of a dark color, in perfect harmony with the light. It is beautifully carved and ornamented with designs from the chisel. Broad carpeted staircases lead from the lower floor to the galleries, models of art as well as of beauty. The wood here is also turned and carved into pretty artistic designs.

The memorial windows, of which there are three proper, are in full view from the audience room and are exhibitions of the highest in that department of art.

The first on the right hand side is "In memory of Mary Alexander Hodge," the deceased wife of Dr. Hodge, given by the ladies of the church. It is a representation of Mary washing the feet of Jesus.

A calm submissive look is upon the countenances of the two, and the inscription 'I. H. S.' is underneath the figures.

Next to it is a window of the same size and shape, and bears this inscription at the top: "In memoriam. Archibald Alexander Hodge, D. D., LL. D., for three years the revered pastor of this church." At the bottom are these words: "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" An angel in light robes, a golden halo, one finger pointing towards heaven, the other to the earth, is the figure. The lower part of the window represents green clinging vines with white leaves. The colors and shades are beautifully intermingled, and the window is a beautiful work of art. The painter's hand has not produced the colors and effect, but it was done entirely by varying the thickness of the glass, the thicker parts producing the dark and the thinner parts the light shades. The delicate and difficult work may well be imagined.

On the opposite side of the room is an immense window or series of windows, for there are two on either side of a double window, reaching from above the gallery to the lower floor, but shaped as if the break did not occur. They are in memory of Rev. Dr. John Dorrance, once pastor of the church. He was the father of Mrs. Col. G. M. Reynolds and Mrs. Alexander Farnham, of this city, and brother of Charles Dorrance, of Dorranceton. They represent studies from the life of St. Paul, and are very beautiful in style and finish. The series cost something in the neighborhood of \$3,000. The colors are very bright and look-

ing upon the design from the lower pews the effect is truly magnificent.

A huge baptismal font of stone, upon the sides of which are chiseled scriptural designs, was presented by an unknown party. It is also a beautiful addition to the beautiful interior.

Looking towards the pulpit from the rear of the room one is lost in contemplating the scene. The steps leading to the pulpit extend about twenty feet in length and immediately behind the pulpit rise the immense pipes of the organ in colors of gold. The woodwork is also handsomely carved. The organ is placed at the side and is shut from view by the apartment for the quartet, who face the audience. The communion table and two massive chairs are in front of the pulpit, beautifully polished and carved, the gift of Rev. Charles Collins, formerly of Wilkes-Barre.

To the left of the pulpit is a handsome tablet of mosaic design in gold colors and inlaid, "In filial memory to Hon. Oristus Collins, 1792-1884, an honored elder in this church for fifty years."

In the cellar are placed large fans, driven by an electric motor, for ventilating the room, the air passing through the iron columns into the main body of the church.

The organ is one of the finest ever manufactured. When turned on in full force the sound is almost deafening, and again it may be played so softly that the sounds die away in silence almost the moment they are touched. It may be heard to good advantage in the organ recital to be given in a few weeks.

Visitors to town who have been shown through the edifice express but one opinion—that few can equal it. The members of the congregation have pushed a great work to completion.

#### OTZINACHSON:

#### A History of the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna.

The RECORD has from time to time made frequent reference to the new edition of the above named historical publication. It is now completed and forms a most valuable contribution to the annals of Pennsylvania. In order to show fully its scope, price, etc., the following circular, issued by the author, is appended:

After much labor the "Revised History of the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna" has been completed and published. It makes a heavy volume of 702 pages, not including the index and editorial notes, and brings the history of the valley down from the first appearance of the whites at Shamokin, in 1738, to the close of 1799, and the beginning of 1800. Copies of all the Indian deeds, con-

veying the Susquehanna lands to the Penns, are given, together with the full accounts of the invasions and thrilling massacres that afterwards occurred. The startling scenes of the Big Runaway in 1778 are portrayed, and accounts given of many prisoners in captivity. An account of the building of Fort Augusta in 1756, by Colonel Clapman, is given, together with the famous daily journal of Colonel Burd, while stationed there for nearly a year. The charming journal of Rev. Fithian, who made a visit to the valley in the summer in 1775, is printed in full. A very full description of the famous Fair Play System is printed together with a more exhaustive history of the celebrated Brady family than ever before given. The work has been entirely re-written and a large amount of new material introduced, making it practically a new book and double the value of the original work of 1856. There are fifty illustrations of Indian antiquities, plans of Manors, forts, old buildings, etc., together with three maps—one of the valley, showing the course of the river, the streams emptying into it, the islands, and the places where the forts were located and where many of the pioneers settled. There are also fine portraits of Covenhoven and Van Campen, the celebrated scouts and Indian killers, together with the war implements they carried at that time. The annotations and citations of authorities are copious, and form an interesting and valuable feature of the work.

Only 300 copies of the book remain on hand. The price, beautifully bound in half morocco, is \$5; half calf, gilt top and superbly ornamented, \$6. Sent anywhere by mail on receipt of price. Address, John F. Meginness, Williamsport, Pa.

The different publications of the author now embrace the following works, and the prices for single copies are:

History of the West Branch Valley.....	\$5 00
Biographical Annals.....	4 00
Historical Journal.....	3 00
Samuel Maclay's Journal.....	1 50

Biographical Annals contains very full sketches of 195 deceased residents of the West Branch Valley from the earliest times to the present, and it is a remarkable and deeply interesting compilation. The *Historical Journal* contains, among a multitude of other curious things, a full history of the Presbytery of Northumberland and an exhaustive biography of Rev. John Bryson. Maclay's Journal is a daily record of incidents and events occurring when he and John Adlum and Timothy Matlack surveyed the Susquehanna and Sinnemahoning Rivers in 1790, and never was printed before. To any one buying the four volumes at once they will be furnished for \$12, and shipped by express.

## DEATH OF LEWIS C. PAINE.

After an Illness of About Two Years, One of Wilkes-Barre's Most Substantial Merchants Passes Away.

For about two years people of Wilkes-Barre have noticed with sorrow the gradual decline of Lewis Compton Paine, one of its honored and substantial citizens. He was a victim of kidney disease, and a short time ago he was stricken with slight paralysis, since which his decline has been marked and dissolution was only a question of time. On Friday, May 16, death came,—a gentle falling into sleep. In the death of Mr. Paine his family loses a loving husband and father, the community loses a valuable and a valued member, and the business community an associate whose reputation was spotless and whose word was as good as his bond. His last rational moment was on Tuesday afternoon, when he recognized and shook hands with J. B. Howell.

Deceased was a son of Captain Jedediah Paine, was born in Perth Amboy, N. J., March 26, 1827, and was consequently 63 years of age. He followed the occupation of his father and was trained for the sea from the cradle. When nearly 15 years of age he was made an officer on his father's vessel and in that capacity visited many parts of the world. His father followed the sea for 63 years. During what was intended as a temporary furlough Mr. Paine came to this city about 1846 for the purpose of visiting friends and was employed by the late Col. H. B. Hillman in connection with his mining interests in Nanticoke. He came here with his uncles Frank Waite and the Compton brothers. The former built the store now occupied by the Doran sisters and the Comptons ran a line of freight wagons between Wilkes-Barre and Perth Amboy, their home. In 1848, Mr. Paine married Mary Campbell Lee, daughter of James S. Lee and niece of Col. Washington Lee, and they at once removed to Perth Amboy. This was after Mr. Paine had passed through a long and severe attack of fever. Soon afterwards he again returned to the sea, in order to regain his health, willingly re-embracing the life and for three years he was purser on a steamer plying between New York and the Isthmus of Panama. C. E. Butler, of this city, was mail agent on the same steamer.

In 1853 he gave up his seafaring life and came to Nanticoke where he engaged in a mine store as Lee, Paine & Co., his partners being Washington Lee, Jr., and Andrew Lee, brothers of his wife. In

that year his wife died and there survived her one son, William Lee Paine. Col. Washington Lee operated the mines, subsequently the property of the Susquehanna Coal Co. The venture in Nanticoke was not a success, owing to the panicky times which culminated in 1857, and Mr. Paine came to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He engaged in the grocery business on Market Street and subsequently sold to W. M. Miller, who is still the active manager of the extensive business at the same location. He was one of the first to engage in the local oil trade, about 1860, and with his brother, J. C. Paine, brought it up to formidable proportions.

About 1868 he engaged in the mine store business at the Empire with W. L. Conyngham, C. M. Conyngham and Charles Parrish as Conynghams & Paine. A few years later the business was transferred to Wilkes-Barre, Mr. Parrish having meanwhile withdrawn from the firm. Here they engaged extensively in the meat packing business, Mr. Paine buying out his partners in 1879.

He originated the dressed beef business of this city in the interest of Armour & Co., which has since been conducted by H. B. Lacey. He was at one time treasurer of the Penna. Oil Co., and was the pioneer of the independent oil business here in opposition to the Standard Oil Co. The firm of L. C. Paine & Co., of which he was sole owner and proprietor for a number of years past, did an extensive wholesale oil and provision business and shipped goods to a large outside territory. His health falling rapidly during the past two years he yielded to the urging of family and physician, and on Dec. 1, 1889 the business was merged into Paine & Co., Limited, of which, however, he retained an interest. Among his personal possessions were the Exchange Hotel, packing and oil houses, several dwelling houses at Five Points, West Virginia coal property, etc.

Mr. Paine occupied many positions of honor and usefulness in the community. He was at the time of his death a communicant and vestryman of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and as recently as Easter Monday was re-elected senior warden. He was one of the trustees of the Osterhout Library and one of the executors of the estate of Isaac S. Osterhout. He was actively interested in the Board of Trade and was one of the organizers and members of the Young Men's Christian Association. He was a member of Lodge 61 of Free Masons. During the existence of the Ashley Savings Bank—of which he was founder—he was its president. He was vice president of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., chairman of the committee having the erection of the Sheldon axle works in charge and was the most instrumental of any one

man in getting these works to Wilkes-Barre. During that year he gave more attention to the development of that industry than to his own business.

In 1837 Mr. Paine married again—Annie E. Lee, of Chester County, who survives him, as do their children, Mrs. Dr. Worden and Miss Priscilla Lee Paine. Though of the same name the present Mrs. Paine is not related to the family into which Mr. Paine married first.

Brothers who survive are Jed. C. Paine, of this city, and James D. Paine, of New York. Surviving sisters are Mrs. William Post, of Pasadena, Cal., and Miss Lillie Paine, of Stroudsburg. A sister, Mrs. Lewis Carpenter, died at Stroudsburg a month ago.

He was descended in the eighth generation from Thomas Paine, who was instrumental in forming one of the first companies of pilgrims who went to Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1831. The family can be traced as among those who followed the Norman invasion of England by William the Conqueror in the eleventh century. Captain Paine was a seafaring man, as were nearly all the male members of the family for several generations. He was an extensive ship owner and builder in New York until his death, leaving to survive him the mother of deceased, who was Phebe Ann Compton, of Perth Amboy, wife of a noted sea captain.

Mr. Paine's characteristics are thus summed up by Dr. George Urquhart:

In the death of Lewis C. Paine this community is bereft of a well-known and estimable citizen, whose enterprise and native capacity made him one of Wilkes-Barre's successful business men.

He was left at an early age to carve out a fortune for himself, and he entered the battle of life with no other advantages than those of a clear head and a strong will, auxiliaries seldom derived from the prestige of rank, wealth or position.

In the general merchandise store of Holland & Hillman, at Nanticoke, about forty-five years ago, he began to lay the foundation of a successful mercantile career, and his history has been largely identified with the inception and progress of the mining and mine store business, as was formerly the custom in mining regions, and in which he has gained a prominent place in business circles. He has maintained an enviable reputation for principle, and in later years he acknowledged the wisdom and duty of a religious life by uniting with the Episcopal Church, and in which he has given evidence of earnestness and the purity of his motives.

In general expression and manner he was unassuming, and his influence has been marked by a commendable spirit.

In his life he united prudence, unaffected humility with simplicity, and sought the quiet pleasures of his own household rather than public responsibility or worldly notoriety.

The position of trust he held in the church was an acknowledgement of his wisdom and unspotted integrity, and with these virtues his easy and agreeable manners showed that to him it seemed no effort to be honest and no difficulty to be just.

He was a judicious observer of all that passed before him, had excellent practical sense, a nice sense of duty, great native refinement, a far reaching influence, and as an earnest and truthful person his advice was heard with confidence and his judgment with submission. He is an example of a self-made, energetic business man, exhibiting in his life an earnest, sincere and philanthropic devotion to those to whom it was a pleasure and duty to administer aid, advice and consolation.

His end was gradual, and in the declining powers of both mind and body, in the listlessness and indifference of physical weakness, there was no trace of the mental activity and the energy of character of his life. His manners were at all times guided by a natural grace, as far from servility as rudeness. His life was under the discipline of the cross, under the conduct of prudence and observation, a life of sober counsels, labor and watchfulness, in which he bore his part patiently, his repentances willingly, his disappointments nobly.

#### TRIBUTE OF REV. H. L. JONES.

During his morning sermon on Sunday morning Rev. Henry L. Jones alluded thus to the deceased:

There are few who have lived long in this world who have not looked on as some dear Christian friend has departed—as life but not love ebbed away—as the eye of sense grew dim, but that of faith waxed brighter and brighter.

We walk and worship close to the veil of the invisible; the glory of the holy place is but thinly severed from our place of sacrifice, and our unsuspecting hearts are startled and bereaved by the entrance of one and another who have walked and worshiped with us. They are suddenly translated. We clasp their hands in a common mortality and weakness and hope, but the grasp suddenly relaxes, we cannot withhold them; they are not, for God takes them and our cry of dismay has ceased, they are spirits of the just made perfect; they are preferred before us. It is my sad duty to announce the death on Friday last of Mr. Lewis Compton Paine, who, 27 years a communicant, during the fifteen years and a half of my pastorate, has been the senior warden of St. Stephen's

Church, and my personal friend and faithful helper in all things that pertained to the interests of the parish or the community in which we dwell. His life was marked by reliable and steadfast integrity, and by firm and conscientious purpose. True and just in his dealings with his fellow men, he was indulgent, affectionate and tender at the home. Those who enjoyed his kindly hospitality realized that the heaviest yoke upon his household was the silken cord of love. The spirit that animated his life forbids his friends to mingle any bitterness in the grief which his death has called forth. For some time before his departure he was well aware of the insidious nature of the disease to which his frame finally yielded. With patient submission he bowed to the will of his Heavenly Father and waited the summons to the Master's presence. The last words it was my privilege to utter by his bedside ere the departing spirit took its flight were expressive of his heart's desire:

"Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee,  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me."

We have lost a faithful friend, our community has been deprived of one of its most enterprising and useful citizens, and the world is poorer by one of its pure minded and upright men. We shall miss him from his place on the Lord's day, which was seldom vacant, we shall miss him from the company of those who meet around the Lord's table, we shall miss his voice in our councils and his kindly interest in our social gatherings. But this is not the lesson to you and me. As our hearts go out in sympathy this morning to those most sorely bereaved, let us be reminded of our own duties, too often disregarded, of the work we have to do in life, and the shortness of the time for accomplishing it. God has spoken, and may we give heed to his voice, by being truer men and women, so that when our time comes we may lie down to die as peacefully as our departed friend, and leave on faces the smile of joy with which the freed spirit gazes first upon the glories of heaven.

#### MR. PAINE'S FUNERAL.

His Employees Attend in a Body—A Vacant Chair in Flowers.

When the funeral service was ended Monday afternoon and L. O. Paine's mortal remains was about to be carried to the hearse there was a heavy down-pour of rain, suggesting the old saying:

"Blessed is the dead that the rain falls on."

Fortunately it ceased long enough for the friends to get into the carriages, but soon

began again and continued till evening. The ladies did not go to the cemetery.

The pallbearers were Col. Conyngham, Jerome G. Miller, O. P. Hunt, G. S. Bennett, A. A. Sterling and A. H. Dickson. The service had been said by Rev. Henry L. Jones, assisted by Rev. H. E. Hayden. Other ministers present but not participating were Rev. Dr. Hodge, Rev. Dr. Frear, Rev. H. H. Welles, Kingston; Rev. O. M. Carr, Sayre; Rev. J. P. Ware, Plymouth; Rev. T. B. Angell, Harrisburg.

The singing was by Miss Brundage, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Baur. The darkened parlor in which lay the dead was beautified with floral designs. One was "the vacant chair," sent by the Paine Oil Co., Limited, and its employes. It was three feet high. The back was covered with smilax and contained a cross of roses, narcissus and lilies. The seat was a bed of roses, lilies and other flowers. The legs and round were trimmed with smilax. It bore the following card:

*We Mourn Our Loss.*

PAINE & CO., LIMITED.

A. H. VAN HORN,                   JOSEPH BIRKBECK,  
W. P. ANDERSON,                 J. B. HOWELL.

#### *Employes.*

H. W. Raudenbush,	Isaac Bishop,
O. F. Snyder,	Sterling Mathers,
Henry Breisch,	Charles Morts,
John Stortz,	John Crispell,
George Wiley,	Anthony Esser,
George Snyder,	J. K. Briggs.

"Himself hath done it! Yes, although severe  
May seem the stroke, and bitter the cup,  
'Tis his own hand that holds it, and we know  
He'll give us grace to drink it meekly up."

The vestry of St. Stephen's attended in a body—O. M. Conyngham, W. L. Conyngham, F. J. Leavenworth, Garrett Smith, A. B. Brundage, Charles A. Miner, Richard Sharpe, H. W. Palmer—as did the principals of the Paine Oil Co. and the employes, Messrs. Van Horn, Birkbeck, Anderson and Howell carried bunches of roses and placed them on the grave. Among the gentlemen present were A. T. and A. H. McOlintock, Judge Woodward, A. F. Derr, W. F. Miner, W. N. Jennings, O. D. Foster, Q. A. Gates, Charles Law, J. W. Hollenback, J. M. Crane, Dr. Urquhart, W. D. Loomis, J. C. Phelps, Charles Smith, Agib Bicketta, G. B. Wright, T. H. Atherton, T. Burnet, A. Bertels, J. J. Robbins, Enoch Jones, E. J. Sturdevant, William Stoddart, J. E. Patterson, P. B. Raife, W. B. Mitchell, T. F. Byman, A. Whitaker, S. W. Townsend, Marcus Smith, T. W. Brown, B. F. Dorrance, Woodward Leavenworth, H. H. Harvey, B. Sharpe, Jr., T. B. Hillard,

N. P. H. Hugus, of the Sheldon Axle Co, William and Frank Puckey, Louis and Charles Long, Harry Jordan, H. H. Welles, Jr., W. R. Williams, Jacob Schapert, W. S. Wells, Sheldon Reynolds, E. Troxell, L. D. Shoemaker, W. W. Brown, A. B. Ribbie, F. C. Johnson.

The trustees of the Osterhout library adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the trustees of the Osterhout Free Library have received with deep sorrow the intelligence of the decease of their late president, Mr. Lewis Compton Paine.

Resolved, That the valuable services of Mr. Paine as a member of this board, his great interest in the welfare of the library and his active efforts to place it in its present position of prosperity and usefulness, entitle him to a distinguished rank among the friends and benefactors of this institution.

Resolved That we attend the funeral services of our esteemed friend and associate, and that the library be closed between the hours of 3 and 6 this afternoon.

Resolved that the members of this board will cherish with grateful respect the memory of the deceased; and that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to his bereaved family.

#### Mrs. Church's Long Life.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Church, who passed away in Kingston Thursday, March 20, after a week of sickness with paralysis, was held Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the home of her son, William F. Church, on Pringle Street. Mrs. Church, who was 77 years of age at the time of her death, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, in March, 1813. Her maiden name was Mary Johnson. She was married to Addison Church in 1836 at Wyoming, this county, to which place her parents had removed when she was a child. She commenced house-keeping at the farm of her husband at Forty Fort, where she resided until the death of her husband in 1860, after which she made her home with her son, W. F. Church, in Kingston, with whom her last days were spent. She was the mother of two children, W. F. Church, of Kingston, and Mrs. George Marsland, of New York City, who died in 1876. She has since childhood been a consistent member of the Methodist Church, and through the blessing of continued good health was enabled to attend services regularly. "Aunt Mary," as she was lovingly called by her large number of friends and relatives, will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of associating with her in any way. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. G. Eckman, her pastor, and burial were in the Forty Fort Cemetery.

#### SUDDEN DEATH OF THOMAS WILSON.

Stricken Down While on Duty in His New Position at Freeland.

[Daily Record, April 17.]

The community was shocked Monday to learn that Thomas Wilson—who nobody knew was sick—had suddenly died in Freeland. The sad event took place on Sunday night about 11 o'clock. Mr. Wilson had been ailing with a cold for many weeks, but on the Thursday preceding his death he was suddenly taken ill at the new banking institution—Citizens' Bank of Freeland—of which he had been elected cashier only a month ago. Medical aid was summoned, but his condition was not considered fatal, though he suffered intense pain and had to be kept under the influence of opiates. The cause of death is given as pneumonia, though that is not the diagnosis arrived at by the physicians, who so far as can be learned attributed it to some abdominal obstruction.

Mr. Wilson was a native of the north of Ireland and came to this country when a mere lad. He came to Wilkes Barre from Summit Hill and made a reputation as a most honorable business man. This reputation he ever maintained and those who knew him best say they would not have hesitated to trust their all in his care.

He had a natural aptitude for banking and became cashier of the First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, a position which he filled with entire satisfaction, retiring in 1879. He had invested rather heavily in local real estate, but hard times coming he had difficulty in meeting his payments. He therefore voluntarily turned over his entire property to his creditors, not keeping out a home or even a dollar for himself. The handsome home, costing \$23,000, is now owned by William S. McLean. Mr. Wilson then went to Colorado and sought to repair his shattered fortunes, but he subsequently returned and engaged in the real estate business in Wilkes-Barre. In this he was succeeding when the new bank at Freeland—of which Joseph Birkbeck, of this city, is a leading spirit—offered Mr. Wilson the cashiership and the same was accepted. Mr. Wilson went to his new post a few weeks ago and at once became a general favorite in Freeland. It seemed as if life was opening up anew to him and when here last week he seemed a young man again. But he was not an old man—only 63 on the 24th of last January. During his brief illness he was attended by the most skilled medical practitioners of Freeland and on Sunday he was

visited by two of the local clergy, who held services in his room. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Wilson was twice married. His first wife was a daughter of the late Alexander McLean and a sister of William S. McLean. Two sons are the issue of that union—Leslie Wilson, in the grain business in Scranton, and Thomas Wilson, who is lumbering at Lenoire, N. C. His second wife, who was with him during his illness, is Harriet, daughter of one of Wilkes-Barre's old-time physicians, Dr. Lathan Jones. A daughter, Annie, was born to them and she survives to mourn.

Mr. Wilson was a grand good man. Of quiet demeanor and unostentatious walk in life, yet his energy was unbounded and his integrity was unquestioned.

A touching incident in connection with Mr. Wilson's death was the fact that a crayon portrait of himself had just been completed as a surprise for his son, who lives in North Carolina, and who was to receive it yesterday—the occasion of his marriage anniversary. It must have arrived about the same time as did a telegram advising him of his father's death. The picture was a present from the daughter-in-law and Mr. Wilson only a few days ago had been in Miss Stearn's studio to give the artist a final sitting. It was only last week that Mr. Wilson made a business call at the Record office and was as bright and cheerful as he used to be in other days when the world had used him more kindly than it did later. He was enthusiastic over the bright outlook of the new bank of which he was cashier and whose first month's business had just closed so satisfactorily.

The funeral of the late Thomas Wilson was held Wednesday afternoon from the residence of A. S. Orr, on Union Street, Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. O. R. Gregory officiating. Music was rendered by a quartet comprising Miss Gering, Miss Baur, Adolph Baur and Frank Puckey.

Four directors of the bank of Freeland, of which Mr. Wilson was cashier, came to the funeral, Thomas Birkbeck, Charles Dusheck, H. C. Coons and Edward Snyder, as also John D. Hayes, the bank's solicitor, and Hon. James Collins. Among the gentlemen present from Wilkes-Barre were H. W. French, T. Burnet, Manus McGinty, Hon. O. A. Miner, A. H. Van Horn, D. L. Patrick, Geo. Loveland, Dr. Urquhart, Wm. Keith, G. W. Coolbaugh, Wm. Wilson, W. W. Loomis, G. P. Loomis, Col. Stark, and from Ashley James Boyd.

Mr. Wilson's son, Thomas, of Lenoire, N. C., and Leslie, of Scranton, were present, with their wives, also A. W. Dickson, of Scranton. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

The pall bearers were Isaac M. Thomas, Thomas J. Chase, Charles Hutchison, M. B. Houpt, Joseph Birkbeck and George S. Bennett.

#### PETER M. OSTERHOUT DEAD.

At the Age of Four Score His Long and Active Life is Ended—Sketch of His Career.

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa., May 13.—[Special.]—Hon. P. M. Osterhout died to-day, aged 80 years. His has been a long, active and eventful life. He was descended from the liberty loving Mayflower stock upon the one side, and the sturdy burghers of Holland upon the other, and was born in Easton, Luzerne (now Wyoming) County, Pa., May 21, 1810. During the fall of the same year his parents moved to the place now known as La Grange, on the L. V. R. R., where he remained until his sixteenth year. Then he commenced his long, active and useful business life as an employe of James Wright, at Tunkhannock. In 1838 he removed to Elmira, N. Y., and was a clerk in the establishment of John Arnot four years. In December, 1833, he returned to Tunkhannock and in connection with George M. Hollenback, of Wilkes-Barre, opened a large mercantile establishment and continued in trade there until 1845. In 1835 Mr. Osterhout was appointed justice of the peace by Governor Ritner and held the office to the satisfaction of the public until a change in the constitution made it elective. In 1841 he was appointed postmaster at Tunkhannock under the Harrison administration, but upon the ascendancy of John Tyler was deposed, charged with having assisted in the circulation of the New York *Tribune*, and a Democrat was appointed in his place. In 1845 he was the candidate of the Whig party for the office of prothonotary and clerk of the courts of Wyoming County, and was elected by a majority of two votes. In 1848 he was re-elected to the same important position by an increased majority of twelve, and faithfully and for the best interest of the public served out his term. While engaged in the arduous duties of his official life Mr. Osterhout commenced the study of law under the instructions of Hon. B. B. Little and in 1852 was admitted to practice in the several courts of Wyoming County. Upon the dissolution of the old Whig party Mr. Osterhout became a staunch Republican and was chosen as a delegate to the national convention that nominated John C. Fremont for the Presidency. In 1860 he was a delegate to the national convention at Chicago, assisted in the nomination of Abraham Lincoln and took an energetic

and important part in the canvass that resulted in his election. In 1864 he was elected a representative to the State Legislature, the district being then composed of Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties, and his re-election the following year proved the estimation in which he was held and the confidence reposed in him by his constituents. During all the exciting phases of the late war Mr. Osterhout took a strong and decided stand in favor of the Union. He was appointed enrolling officer by Gov. Curtin for the county of Wyoming for the first draft ordered by the government. In 1868 he was elected to the State Senate from the district composed of Bradford, Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties. During his Senatorship he was very active in carrying out necessary reforms in the law of evidence, and gaining for parties accused the right to testify in their own behalf, the beneficial results of which will be a lasting tribute to his memory as a man and his clear discrimination of right as a lawyer. He was a delegate to the national convention of 1872, and assisted in the nomination of Grant for re-election as President. He has been twice married—first in 1835 to Frances Slocum Carey, daughter of Ebenezer Carey, of Wilkes-Barre, who died in 1839. In 1841 he married Eunice Marcey, daughter of Col. Abel Marcey, who died in 1876, leaving two daughters, Frances S., the wife of Capt. E. S. Handrick, and Sue L., wife of Seth L. Keeney, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Although a man of four-score years he bore his age well. The hand of time had not bowed his stalwart frame or dimmed the workings of his active mind.

Of such men were the pioneers of the country, who as long as the records of the early days of Wyoming County remain will be found prominent therein the name of Peter Mitchell Osterhout. He was a cousin of the late Isaac S. Osterhout, founder of the Free Library in Wilkes-Barre.

Funeral Thursday at 3:30 p. m. from the residence.

#### One of the Youngest Veterans.

The appointment of S. D. Hunt as postmaster at Huntsville puts to an end an excitement that had kept the people of that quiet community awake nights. The opposing candidate was the venerable Dr. Rogers, and as both men were so acceptable, it must have been difficult to arrive at a decision. The appointment went, however, to the Grand Army man. Mr. Hunt is one of the youngest veterans of the service, and though he fought throughout the war and the war has been ended 25 years, he is only 41 years old now. Mr. Hunt enlisted just before his 13th birthday in Co. C, 50th New York Engineers, and served four years.

#### A SON'S ENDURING MONUMENT.

**Thomas Beaver, Presbyterian, Erects an \$150,000 Church at Lewisburg, in Memory of His Methodist Father—Sketches of Father and Son.**

A special car on the D., L. & W. E. R. on May 14, 1890, conveyed a party of Kingstons and others to Lewisburg to attend the dedication of the new church which Thomas Beaver has erected in memory of his father, Rev. Peter Beaver. In the company was Rev. Dr. Thomas Charles Edwards, the eminent Welsh divine now visiting the United States. He was greatly pleased with the delightful ride down the valley of the Susquehanna. Others were his Kingston namesake, Rev. T. C. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Newell, Dr. and Mrs. Cobleigh, Rev. F. von Krug, Editor Holbrook, of the *Times*, Otis Lincoln, Kingston correspondent of the *Record*, all of Kingston; W. B. Storrs, A. H. Vandling, Mr. Mannee, Rev. Dr. Logan, all of Scranton, Dr. and Mrs. Jones, of Plymouth, and F. C. Johnson, of Wilkes-Barre.

Services were held morning, afternoon and evening, and were attended by greater throngs than the church could accommodate. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Bishop Cyrus D. Foss and was a masterly treatise on faith. "Chaplain" McCabe made some remarks but stated that he was embarrassed by not having to make an appeal for a collection. It was the first time in his experience when he had attended a church dedication where there was a debt to be wiped out. As Mr. Beaver had presented the church, finished and paid for, Dr. McCabe suggested that a collection be taken for the parsonage fund, and this was done. After the collection the dedicatory service was conducted by Bishop Thomas Bowman, who in 1858 was pastor of the church.

The presentation was made by Mr. Beaver, who is one of the trustees. He is a vigorous and active man of 75 years who takes great pleasure in making his philanthropic bequests during his own life and watching them develop. Two years ago he made a munificent gift to the people of the town in which he lives—\$150,000 for a public library. He has given \$30,000 to Dickinson College (Methodist), \$25,000 to Lafayette College (Presbyterian), and liberally to the Presbyterian Church in Danville, and just now he is improving the burying ground in Lewisburg, where his father is buried in the family lot. He also contemplates erecting a Home for Old Ladies in Danville.

Mr. Beaver is eminently a self-made man. He left the parental roof at the age of 13



years to make his own living, and never had a day of schooling after that. He subsequently amassed a fortune in the mercantile business and in iron making, at Danville, where his home is. He gave up his iron interests about a dozen years ago, and his only business engagement since that time has been with the Kingston Coal Co., owned by himself and Daniel Edwards. The two have been intimately associated for 33 years. Mr. Beaver has traveled in Europe, and he has accumulated a fine library.

At the afternoon service there was an organ voluntary, more anthem singing by the choir, a solo by Miss Blanche Housel, a sermon by Rev. Dr. John DeWitt, and singing by Chaplain McCabe. Dr. DeWitt is a son-in-law of Mr. Beaver, and a Presbyterian professor in a theological seminary at Chicago.

In the evening there were addresses by Bishop Bowman, Gov. Beaver, Rev. Dr. Buckley (editor of the *Christian Advocate*), Rev. Dr. Reid (president of Dickinson College), and by Chaplain McCabe, together with vocal and instrumental music.

The church was erected by Thomas Beaver at a cost of nearly one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, in memory of his father. The son is a Presbyterian, but his father was a Methodist and the church is a gift to the Methodist people of Lewisburg. It is in the abridged Gothic style, and is eighty-one feet by one hundred and fifty-three feet. It is built of Euclid blue-stone from the Malone quarries, Cleveland, Ohio. All the column work on the facade is of polished Aberdeen granite, with handsome carved caps.

The parsonage, adjoining the church and chapel, is built of the same stone and finished in hard wood. It is neatly decorated with fine papering, stained glass and tiling, with all the modern improvements.

Rev. Peter Beaver was born in Franklin County in 1784 and died in Union County 40 years ago. He was a man of ability and godly life and was ordained in 1807 by Bishop Asbury. He preached in German and English with equal fluency. He raised a large family, Gov. Beaver's father being one of his sons.

The church in Lewisburg was organized in 1812. In 1815 Rev. Marmaduke Pearce (father of the late Stewart Pearce, author of "Annals of Luzerne") was presiding elder of the district. In 1819 Rev. George Lane, well known to Wilkes-Barre Methodists, was pastor. In 1859 Rev. Thomas M. Reese (afterwards of Wilkes-Barre) was pastor.

#### Memorial Tab to Mrs Woodward.

An interesting addition the imposing array of memorials in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church was exposed to view on Easter day for the first time. A tablet has been

placed near the pulpit in memory of Mrs. Woodward, wife of the Hon. George W. Woodward, a lady well-remembered by the older members of the congregation. It consists of a block of dark grey marble, on which is carved a wreath of ivy leaves, encircling the symbols of the Chi Rho and Alpha and Omega. Beneath this is a plate of antique brass, bearing the following inscription:

In memory of Sarah Elizabeth Woodward, wife of the Hon. George W. Woodward, born June 21, 1810, died June 26, 1869. A faithful wife; a loving mother; a blessing to all who were associated with her. A worshiper in this church from its beginning. "Her children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." Proverbs 31:23.

The lines of the tablet correspond with those of the pulpit, to which it forms an appropriate addition. It is the gift of Charles Francis Woodward, and of his sister, Mrs. E. G. Scott.

#### Some Local Historical Matters.

The *Gleaner*, a newspaper published in Wilkes-Barre in 1817, has an advertisement from the Wilkes-Barre bridge stating they are ready for bids for the erection of the bridge. It is signed by John Sinton, Stephen Tuttle, Elias Hoyt, James Barnes, Henry Buckingham and George Chahoon, managers. Dated Wilkes-Barre, June 13.

In another issue of the *Gleaner* for Aug. 15, 1817, there is an item giving an account of a disastrous freshet in the Susquehanna, stating that the mails and papers had all been destroyed and that several bridges, mills and dams had been washed away, also a fine large bridge over the mouth of the Tunkhannock River. A portion of it was found the next morning against the piers of the Wilkes-Barre bridge, then in the course of erection. The freshet did great damages to scorp, but no lives were lost.

#### An Old Note Calls Up Old Scenes.

O. Hemstreet, of this city, recently received a three dollar scrip note, issued by D. Paine March 24, 1816, by the old Wilkes-Barre Bridge Company. It was signed by the chairman of the Bridge Co., Matthias Holtenback, and the signature is written in a bold hand and is perfectly legible. On the centre of the note is a steel engraved picture of the old bridge structure and the surrounding scene of the Market Street entrance. The bridge was destroyed in a wind storm a few years later, and the present bridge was erected. The first bridge had a centre space for foot passengers, and the horseways were on either side. A large two-story warehouse and an old-fashioned balance scales stood in front. The scrip note is beautifully engraved and is in a good state of preservation.

### THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENCY.

#### Sketches of the Candidates—Summary of the Vote in Convention on May 6.

The campaign of the several candidates for county superintendent has been conducted so quietly and scarcely to attract attention—quite a contrast to three years ago when the papers were teeming with communications on the subject. At that time Mr. Coughlin defeated T. B. Harrison, of Wilkes-Barre, and Frank F. Morris, of Dallas—but he had a close shave to do so, for his majority was only one vote. He received 151, Mr. Harrison 110 and Mr. Morris 40.

The first ballot stood as follows:

Coughlin.....	143
Harrison.....	149
Ross.....	38
Baird.....	10

One of the candidates not having received a majority of all the votes cast, a second ballot was immediately ordered, which ran in this fashion:

Coughlin.....	146
Harrison.....	167
Ross.....	16
Baird.....	3

#### THE FINAL BALLOT.

Ashley—H 2, C 3, absent 1.  
 Avoca—H 4, C 2.  
 Black Creek—H 5, C 1.  
 Bear Creek—H 1, C 5  
 Butler—H 1, C 4, absent 1.  
 Buck Township—No representation.  
 Conyngham—H 3, C 3.  
 Dallas Township—H 3, C 1, Ross 2.  
 Dallas Borough—H 3, C 1, Ross 1, absent 1.  
 Denison—H 5, absent 1.  
 Dorrance—H 5, absent 1.  
 Dorranceton—H 4, absent 2.  
 Edwardsville—H 4, C 1, absent 1.  
 Exeter Township—H 3, absent 3.  
 Exeter Borough—H 5, C 1.  
 Fairmount Township—H 5, C 1.  
 Fairmount Independent—H 6.  
 Fairview—C 3, absent 4.  
 Foster—H 3, C 3.  
 Franklin—H 2 C 1, Ross 3, absent 1.  
 Freeland—H 1, C 3, absent 2.  
 Forty Fort—H 4, Ross 1, absent 1.  
 Hanover—H 1, C 3, absent 2.  
 Hazleton—H 2, C 3, absent 1.  
 Hollenback—H 3, C 1, absent 2.  
 Hughestown—C 6.  
 Huntington—H 3, C 2 absent 1.  
 Hunlock—H 4, C 1.  
 Jackson—H 3, C 2 absent 1.  
 Jenkins—H 1, C 5.  
 Jeddo—C 4, absent 2.  
 Kingston Township—H 2, C 3, Baird 1.  
 Kingston Borough—H 4, C 1, Baird 1.  
 Lyflin Borough—Ross 4, absent 2.  
 Lake—H 5, C 1.  
 Laurel Run—H 1, C 4 absent 2.  
 Le man—H 4, C 1, Baird 1.  
 Luzerne—C 3, R ss 3.  
 Marcy—C 5, absent 1.

Miner's Mills—H 2, C 2, Ross 1, absent 1.  
 Newport—H 4, C 2.  
 New Columbus—C 5, absent 1.  
 Nescopeck—H 9, absent 3.  
 Parsons—H 5, absent 1.  
 Pittston Borough—C 5, absent 1.  
 Pittston, West—C 4, Ross 1.  
 Pittston Township—C 6  
 Plains—H 3, C 3.  
 Plymouth Borough—H 4, C 5, absent 2.  
 Ross Township—H 6.  
 Salem—H 3, absent 3.  
 Shickshinny—H 3, C 2, Ross 1, absent 1.  
 Slocum—H 2, C 3.  
 Sugarloaf—H 2, C 4.  
 Sugar Notch—H 3, C 3.  
 Union Township—H 6.  
 White Haven—H 2, C 3, absent 1.  
 Wilkes-Barre, First Dist.—H 2, C 4.  
 Wilkes-Barre, Second Dist.—H 4, absent 1.  
 Wilkes-Barre, Third Dist.—H 1, C 6.  
 Wright Township—C 3, absent 3.  
 Wyoming Borough—H 4, C 2.  
 Yatesville—C 6.

#### THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT.

T. B. Harrison was born in Union Township, Luzerne County. His education was in the common schools of that district during his boyhood's winters, his summers being devoted to working on his father's farm. He began teaching in Union in 1875, and taught subsequently in Huntington, Ross and Plymouth Townships. He attended the State Normal School at Bloomsburg and graduated in 1881 in a class of forty-one, taking highest honors. After graduating he taught two years in Kingston Borough, but resigned that position to accept the principalship of a high school at Hazleton. After holding that position for two years he resigned to take charge of the schools of the Second District in the city of Wilkes-Barre, a position which he has filled to the entire satisfaction of the board and the patrons of the schools for the last five years. His candidacy was endorsed by the school boards of Ross, Union, Fairmount and Lake Townships and by Fairmount Independent School District. Besides the board of the Second School District, Wilkes-Barre, unanimately testified as to his worth and endorsed his candidacy. They said:

"His work in the schools of this district during the past five years is the highest testimony of his worth as an educator, a scholar and a gentleman. We can, from our own personal knowledge of his work as a superintendent who has increased the efficiency of our schools until they stand second to none in the county, recommend him to the directors in convention assembled as a candidate who possesses every element necessary to make an official who will work for the best interests of education in our county." All the five members of the board signed the endorsement. Three years ago he was a candidate and was Mr. Coughlin's most formidable rival. He had the honor of being the

only candidate in that convention who had more votes on the third ballot than on the first. He is a married man, Democrat, and a Methodist.

**MR. COUGHLIN.**

James M. Coughlin, the present incumbent, has filled the duties of county superintendent for 12 years, and has made an excellent record. He is a native of Luzerne County, having been born in Fairmount Township. He is a son of John Coughlin, who came to America from County Clare, Ireland. He is a man of strong character and has been an influential factor in the system of common schools. Last winter he was favorably mentioned by the press of the county, regardless of politics, as a suitable person to fill the State superintendency made vacant by the death of Dr. Higbee. Mr. Coughlin is a man of strong home attachments and he and his family live in Kingston. He is by politics a Democratic Prohibitionist and Presbyterian by church affiliation. He is a good platform speaker, an industrious inspector of the county schools and has a large and influential acquaintance among the directors. In the campaign three years ago, the only objection urged against him was that ought to make room for some one else. There never was any question of his competency.

**MR. ROSS, OF LUZERNE.**

Edward E. Ross is one of the two west side candidates, and a formidable fight he is making. His home is in Luzerne Borough. He was born in Schuylkill County in 1855. In early boyhood he worked in a breaker picking slate, attending school only in colder weather. He had a natural aptness for learning, and by close application was able to pass a rigid examination at the early age of 15 years. The object of his parents at the time was to give their son the benefit of a college education, but his father's death blighted this fond desire when he was 17. At 19 he was granted a State permanent certificate. He is now principal of the Luzerne common schools. During all the time he has been employed in the school room his record has been that of a successful teacher. Having given educational matters close attention for the past twenty years, he seeks to put in practical operation some of the experience gained during that time. Mr. Ross is known as a tireless, patient and conscientious teacher, and his character is of the best. He is a Republican and is married.

**MR. BAIRD, OF WILKES-BARRE.**

Samuel W. Baird, who for the last eight years has held the responsible position of principal of the Franklin Grammar School

in Wilkes-Barre, is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in York County. He worked on his father's farm until about 16 years old, attending the country schools of that region. He then learned the carpenter trade and worked a year in and about Wilkes-Barre, including a period during which he was in charge of the machinery of Charles Hutchison's East Boston colliery, then new, and now owned by W. G. Payne & Co. Mr. Baird then determined to prepare himself for teaching. He went to the English and Classical Institute at Stewartstown, Pa., completing the course in the spring of 1871, taking first honor for diligence in study. The following winter he taught in a country school in York County, and in the summer of 1873 he solicited stock for and built the Fawn Grove Academy in York County, and was its principal for a time. His brother, Z Taylor Baird, was at that time in the lumber business in Kingston, and Mr. Baird joined him. The impulse to teach still possessed him, and during 1875 and 1876 he was principal of the borough schools in Kingston. He served with such acceptability that he was tendered a position in the Third District schools in Wilkes-Barre, and came here in 1876 and has remained ever since. His promotion was rapid, and for the last eight years he has held one of the most important principalships in the city. He has been actively identified with every educational advance and though not a man to force himself into prominence, yet he has been actively associated with every progressive effort to further the interests of the already good schools of a somewhat remarkable district. He has written extensively and some of his articles have appeared in the Record. His school board, a few years ago, granted him permission to visit the famous schools of Quincy, Mass., and also those of Boston, New York and Brooklyn, in order that he might study their courses of study, plans of classification and methods of teaching, discipline, etc. Hence his knowledge of school work is not circumscribed to the narrow territorial limits of Kingston and Wilkes-Barre. It is superfluous to add anything as to his excellent character. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is unmarried.

—Miles Henry, of Irish Lane, was in town Tuesday renewing his subscription to the Record. When asked as to what Irish people lived at Irish Lane he replied that there was once quite a settlement of them, but now nearly all are dead. George Crockett is an exception, and he is about 90 years old. He is a native of Ireland, and is a farmer. He is the father of James Crockett, county surveyor. The old gentleman is quite spry and walks without a cane.

### THE EARLY HISTORY OF COAL.

#### A Fact Which Considerably Antedates the Data in Any of the Local Histories of Wyoming.

The following extracts are taken from a paper read before the Pennsylvania Historical Society in 1875 by William J. Buck. The paper appears in *Potter's American Monthly*, vol. 4 (1875) p. 180:

While arranging the voluminous correspondence of the Penn Manuscripts, lately acquired by this Society, I had my attention arrested therein by a discovery made of our anthracite coal as early as 1766, and a sample thereof actually sent in the summer of that year to England, to test, by experiment, the value it might possess. As I expected, this information proved gratifying, for no published account could I find anywhere, in point of time, of so early and positive a knowledge of this kind of coal, and encouraged me to proceed in the preparation of a paper on the subject.

I shall give the account of this information from the original letter written by James Tilghman in Philadelphia, dated August 14, 1766, and addressed to the Proprietaries Thomas and Richard Penn, Spring Garden, London. At the close of four compact pages on other matters, he says, "My brother-in-law, Colonel Francis, one of the officers who lately applied to you for a grant of some lands in the Forks of Susquehanna, when there shall be a purchase of the Indians, has lately made an excursion into those parts, and has removed a good many of the people settled upon the Indian lands, partly by persuasion and partly by compulsion, which has made the Indians pre ty easy to appearance. He went up the N. E. Branch as far as Wyoming, where he says there is considerable body of good lands and a very great fund of coal in the hills, which surround a very fine and extensive bottom there. This coal is thought to be very fine. With his compliments he sends you a piece of the coal. This bed of coal, situate as it is on the side of the river, may some time or other be a thing of great value."

The letter that communicated this important information, on inspection will be found to be still in excellent preservation though written so long ago. In reply from Thomas Penn, dated London, the following 7th of November, to Mr. Tilghman, he says in acknowledgment: "I desire you will return my thanks to Colonel Francis for his good services in removing the intruders that were settled on the Indians' land, and for the piece of coal which we shall have examined

by some persons skillful in that article, and send their observations on it."

Although I made further researches, I could not find anything more in regard to it. My impression is that no report was ever received, owing to the troubles of the times, which terminated in the complete overthrow of the power that the Penns had exercised over the colony for nearly a century, and in consequence ceased to be of interest to them, and the matter quietly dropped.

The next mention we learn of coal in this section, is from a draft by Charles Stewart, from a survey made in 1768, of a large tract of land on the west side of the Susquehanna, opposite the present borough of Wilkes-Barre, which has "stonecoal" marked thereon. In a communication written by Jesse Fell, of the said town, December 1, 1826, he mentions that Obadiah Gore, a Connecticut settler there, had informed him of having used it with his brother, Daniel Gore, both blacksmiths by trade, and that they were "the first," to use his words, "that discovered and used this coal in their blacksmith fires, and found it to answer their purpose well. This was before the Revolutionary War, and, as near as I can collect the information, about the year 1770 or 1771, and it has been in use ever since by blacksmiths of the place." This is the earliest mention I have anywhere found of applying it to any practical purpose.

From the Penn Manuscript, we learn that the public mind became excited on the report of a discovery of coal in Bucks county, as early as 1760, and which appears to have even interested Thomas Penn.

The earliest mention I have been enabled to find of bituminous coal within the present limits of Pennsylvania, was on the Conemaugh river, a short distance below the present town of Saltsburg, as early, perhaps, as 1750, and I know not later than 1754.

John David Schoepf, in his *Travels*, mentions a visit he made in 1783 to a bed of brilliant black coal, one mile above Wyoming, which on handling leaves no taint, and burns without emitting an offensive odor. That it was so abundant as to be obtained without any charge. He further tells us that a smith had erected workshops near it, and spoke highly of its value. He noticed the numerous impressions of plants between the shale and the coal, which he believes proves its origin and great antiquity. It is found here on both sides of the river, and in various parts of the valley. Several miles from Wyoming, he further remarks, at Jacob's Plains, is a spring, on the surface of which floats a tenacious fatty matter, depositing a yellow sediment. The water has an uncommonly bitter taste and certainly contains coal oil, coming as he conjectures from the neighboring coal beds.

He tells us he found specimens of coal in Swatara Creek, in Lebanon county, and learned of its existence up the West Branch of the Susquehanna. This same year he also visited Carlisle, where he informs us that just outside the town are situated four rows of old and new buildings, in which during the war a number of workmen were engaged in the manufacture of muskets, swords, and wrought iron cannon of great strength. These statements of Dr. Schoepf at this early date are not without interest, and show that he was a close and intelligent observer, and of which for this use I have been under the necessity of translating from the original German.

The earliest authority we find for the existence of coal anywhere in the vicinity of the present town of Pottsville, is William Scull's map of the Province of Pennsylvania, published in 1770.

#### Pioneer Schools of Luzerne.

[By Mrs. M. L. T. HARTMAN.]

The early educational history of Luzerne reaches back to the legal formation of the county, and dates back from the advent of the first colonial occupation of Wyoming Valley by those brave, intelligent families who emigrated from the valleys and hillsides of the then colony of Connecticut, where education was, and still is, considered indispensable in the formation of character.

Connecticut, justly eminent for the general intelligence of her people, was looked up to as an example worthy of imitation. That distinguishing feature of the parent colony was highly prized by the people of the Susquehanna settlement, and its principle adhered to by their descendants for many years.

Whenever the forty families considered requisite for the occupation of a township, were enlisted, their qualities, occupations and talents enumerated, the minister and school teacher were estimated as among the indispensable. Therefore the schools were never neglected, although books, paper, &c., were all brought from the parent colony.

In the settlement of Huntington several of the different families brought sons and also daughters who were qualified for usefulness as instructors of the children, and although the first homes or dwellings were small and constructed of the material found in the forest near by, the schoolhouse was not forgotten, but generally better built, and furnished as comfortably as the best dwellings. Desks and seats were generally made of planed boards, I think as early as 1800. My recollection goes back as far as 1822, my first initiation as a pupil being in the old schoolhouse nearly opposite the site of the present Harveyville church, where at that time the desks and seats seemed quite old but had been

made of smooth boards, comfortably arranged. The house was a frame one-story building, probably 20 feet wide by 24 in length, with writing desks or tables built along each wall, except on the south side; where the desk was placed far enough from the wall for the seat to be placed next the wall. That southside seat was always occupied by the large girls or young lady pupils who consequently had the privilege of facing the teacher and the school without turning around, while the others, when using the desk, sat with their faces toward the wall. A large stove for burning wood occupied the centre of the room. The teacher's desk was movable.

The door was near one corner of the building and opened into an entry or ante-room 5x6 feet large, taken from the school room, where the boys were required to leave their hats before entering. A respectful bow admitted a male pupil, but a courtesy was required of a girl as salutation.

Caroline Turner was the teacher in the summer of 1822. Fannie Fuller had taught a year previous, whose school I visited sometimes, but was not a constant pupil. Many of the children came more than a mile, some of them more than two miles, but they came to learn and were willing to be taught. At that time all were instructed in spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic. Grammar, history and geography were also taught to any wishing to study those branches, or were considered pretty well versed in the grade first mentioned. Noah Webster's "Easy Standard of Pronunciation" and the Dictionary were our spelling books. "John Rogers' Primer," "The English Reader," "Columbian Orator" and "American Preceptor" were all used as reading books. Daboll's, Bennett's and Pike's were the arithmetics. Lindley Murray's grammar was generally used until superseded by Kirkham's about 1835. At the date above mentioned the schools generally were in charge of the pupils of the early emigrants from New England and of a few others who had come from other places.

Thomas Patterson long held the most eminent place as an educator of the youth of Huntington and Plymouth, dividing his time between the two places. He taught many terms in the Plymouth Academy. Col. H. B. Wright claimed him as his favorite teacher, and in his "Sketches of Plymouth" speaks of his sterling qualities with much love and reverence, which is gratefully appreciated by his pupils of Huntington who yet survive. He was an Irish patriot, of Scotch descent, who never forgot the struggles of his native land, or his love of free institutions.

Amongst those early teachers the names of Caroline, Anne, and Fannie Turner, Anne,

and Cathrine Half, George and Lydia Wadhams, Marietta and Hannah Bacon, Epaphras Wadsworth, Wm. Baker, Julius Pratt, Jonah and Joel Rogers, Delia Ann Preston and Pamela Chapin claim notice.

The earlier immigrants from Connecticut, whom I have heard spoken of as teachers were Ames Franklin, Enos and Amos Seward, Mrs. Margaret L. Treecott, Huldah Fuller, Cyrus Fellows and the sons and daughters of Capt. Thomas Stevens. Also an Irishman by the name of Wm. Brandon, generally called "Priest Brandon" as he sometimes preached, taught school previous to 1800.

The people of a neighborhood, united in forming a school district, and, with some help from the land set apart by the township committees for school purposes, built and controlled the school house, elected one or more of their number annually as school committee, who attended to the wants of the school and hired the teacher, who boarded with the pupils, all others being pledge to support their committee.

#### How Names Undergo Change.

The editor of the *Wyalusing Rocket* says that "in 1770 Wyalusing was spelled 'Wiloosin.'" There is nothing particularly strange about this as the spelling and names of many places have changed since that time. At the time of Sullivan's expedition up the Susquehanna, in 1779, Lackawanna was spelled "Lahawanna" and Tunkhannock "Tunkhanna," and so with many other places. It is not long since Lake Winola was called "Breeches Pond" and "Crooked Lake" and Lake Carey was called "Marcy's Pond" and "Barnum's Pond" and so names of lakes and places are frequently changing, and perhaps a hundred years hence our town will not be known by its present name.—*Tunkhannock Democrat*.

#### Treasurers of Ye Olden Time

Treasurer Smolter hung on the walls of his office Monday an interesting addition to his already large picture gallery. Three more portraits of former treasurers of Luzerne County now look down upon the handsome form of John S. McGroarty as he broods over the county finances. They are: Benjamin A. Bidlack, of Wilkes-Barre, who was treasurer from 1833 to 1834; Silas Ram-bach, of Hanover Township, who served in 1854 and 1855, and James Walsh, of Pittston, who took care of the people's money during 1862 and 1863. The term of office at that time was two years.

#### QUERIES ON LOCAL HISTORY.

##### FIRST CHURCH BELL IN WILKES-BARRE.

When was the bell in the Old Ship Zion put up—the first church bell in Wilkes-Barre?

[Saturday February 22, 1812, and rung for the first meeting on Sunday morning, March 1, same year. The same day it was rung for a funeral that of James Reeder's child.]

##### FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN WYOMING.

Who was the first child born in Wyoming Valley? *G. M. K.*

[The first white child born in Wyoming Valley was Lazarus Denison, son of Col. Nathan Denison, born in the year 1773. Col. Denison was married to Miss Betsy Still in 1769, the ceremony taking place in a log cabin which stood on the corner of River and South streets, Wilkes-Barre, on the site now occupied by the imposing mansion in Campbell's Ledge rustic rockwork, built by S. L. Thurlow, now belonging to R. J. Flick. The nuptial ceremony was performed by Rev. Jacob Johnson who for more than a quarter of a century gave his ministrations to the Congregational Church of Wilkes-Barre and the surrounding country.]

##### Does it Antedate Columbus?

Charles Law is the possessor of a bronze implement which he believes dates back to centuries before Columbus discovered America. It was found in the Wyoming Valley below undisturbed alluvial soil, and he believes it to be a relic of the Norsemen, who visited America about 1,000 years ago, though what the Norsemen would have been doing so far from the Atlantic coast is not evident. Mr. Law will send it to the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, for an opinion. Mr. Law says it is identical with the bronzes in the British Museum—made of tin and copper—while modern bronze contains zinc. It is 10 inches long and in each end is the rusted remains of an iron or steel spike, which were originally held in place by set screws, one-fourth inch in diameter, of which only the holes remain. Through the body of the implement, possibly for the attachment of a handle, is an eye three inches long and three-fourths of an inch wide cut in two by a centre wedge. On one side is a small circular inscription in English capitals, but it is not evident what it reads, though the letters DAN Mr. Law believes to indicate its Danish origin.

[It was subsequently found that the curious implement was of modern manufacture and was used in the coal mines of Germany. —EDITOR.]



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W.H. Smith

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